

# THE TIMES

## Objectors in Cabinet delay Bill on direct elections

Mr objectors in the Cabinet are delaying publication of the Bill for elections to the European Parliament until mid-June, thus embarrassing Mr Callaghan. The Home Minister has committed him

self to make his "best endeavours" to fulfil the United Kingdom's obligation under the Treaty of Rome. The four objectors are Mr Foot, Mr Shore, Mr Silkin and Mr Booth.

### Embarrassment for Mr Callaghan

David Wood

Editorial Editor

by your Cabinet

stares a successive meet-

ing 10 Downing Street is

the publication of the Bill

direct elections to the

peas - Parliament until

the Whitewash recess in

June. That means it will

be easy for the 61 new

members to be drawn for

United Kingdom before the

last deadline of May or

1978, as agreed by Mr

Shore at the EEC summit

last year.

Ministers are Mr Foot,

of the House of Com-

who is mainly responsi-

for the legislative pro-

gramme and the next Queen's

Mr Shore, Secretary for

the Environment, Mr

Silkin, Minister for Agric-

ture, Mr Booth, Secre-

of State for Employment,

Vedgwyd-Bevan, Secretary

for Energy, is thought

poised to add his weight

to direct elections.

The Prime Minister, who is

sure to have the honour of

the last summit of the

before the United King-

surrenders in alternating

months' presidency.

Callaghan has committed

himself to make his "best

efforts" to fulfil the United Kingdom's obligation

the Rome Treaty, and

surely wants to be able to

face the reality of legisla-

for direct elections to the

EEC, and in the EEC sum-

mit, the United King-

reputation in the EEC

unquestionably collapses

before the far more

mainly in the Cabinet to

elects are established

either of United

Kingdom membership of

the or the deterioration of

minister powers and MEC

of over domestic policies,

are certainly other fac-

both sides of the Com-

mander

and the CBI





## WEST EUROPE

# M Servan-Schreiber recovers Radical Party's presidency

From Charles Hargrove

Paris, May 15

Three weeks or so ago, M Edgar Faure formally reigned the Radical Socialist Party, obviously with an eye to the succession of M Gabriel Perrier, the outgoing president, smaller parties of the government majority are attempting to reorganize themselves and reforming their leadership, in order to improve their chances in the general election next year.

There are deep stirrings in the Independent, Republican and Reformers parties, and criticism of the old guard. This weekend the Radical Socialist Party, "the grand old party" of the Third and Fourth Republic, elected M Jean-Jacques Servan-Schreiber to its presidency after an eclipse of nearly two years. He won easily by 465 votes to 340 for M Edgar Faure, the president of the National Assembly.

Relations between M Servan-Schreiber and the Radical Socialist Party have often been strained and stormy. He was forced to resign the presidency in July, 1975, before his term was up because of criticism of his policy and methods. But he is nothing if not dynamic and forceful, and that's what the party rank and file felt was called for before the general election.

M Edgar Faure, a Radical Socialist of the older school, was Prime Minister under the Fourth Republic. He then rallied to General de Gaulle and served several times as a minister without ever, he claims, ceasing to be a Radical Socialist.

Such political ambivalence is possible and tolerated in the oldest French political party, which, since the First World War at least, has a reputation for avoiding clear-cut situations and sitting on the fence between right and left.

## OVERSEAS Katangan rebels mine roads in retreat

Kasai, Zaire, May 15.—Moroccan-supported Zaire troops were reported to be thrusting west towards the Angolan border from this deserted mission town today amid official optimism that the nine-week-old Shaba insurrection was "virtually over".

M Edgar Faure explained that he had always wanted to achieve a synthesis between Gaulism and Radicalism, and help the party to recover its historic mission as a link between the right and the left. But his Gaullist links and close friendship with M Jacques Chirac, the Gaullist leader, made him suspect in the eyes of many delegates of being the willing instrument of a takeover attempt by the Gaullists.

M Servan-Schreiber made it abundantly clear that his own candidature was designed to stop this Gaullist takeover.

The clash between these two colourful and contrasted personalities produced some lively discussion at the congress, attended by about 1,400 delegates from all over the country.

M Edgar Faure even left the hall at one stage yesterday in protest against the attacks by Mme Françoise Giroud, the former Minister of Culture. She said that M Chirac gave her the impression of "having gobbled up Little Red Riding Hood's grandmother, and still being hungry for more". He seemed to be especially interested in the Radical Socialist Party. "The proof is that he lends him his mentor to turn him into its future president."

M Edgar Faure, who was greeted with "Faure-Chirac", shouts, denied that he was a "Trojan horse" of the Gaullist leader. The Radicals must be a party of successful reforms, not of proclaimed reforms," he said in a dig at M Servan-Schreiber.



Refugees from Mozambique crowd Lisbon airport waiting for transport to temporary accommodation arranged by the Red Cross. They had to take Mozambique nationality or leave by today.

## Key role forecast for Rhodesian forces

Salisbury, May 15.—Lieutenant-General John Hickman, the Rhodesian Army's new commander, believes the Rhodesian forces will have a key role to play during any transition to black majority rule.

The spokesman said a further loyalist column pushing south towards Kapanga, the most northerly rebel-held town, was at the gates of the city. The position it has been reported in for several weeks.

The bush around Kasai was blackened by fire and military observers said the advent of the dry season could work against the rebels. Bush fires could rob them of cover in the elephant grass and savannah of Shaba, formerly called Kasai.

One of the prisoners displayed yesterday spoke broken Portuguese and said he came from the Ondangwa district of central Angola. He had been with the rebels and said he told he would be marching on Lubumbashi, the Shaba capital.

There was no independent confirmation of this and President Mobutu said he appeared "drugged".

Bowman with a poisoned tipped arrow, stood guard here, the first glimpse of the reporters covering the conflict had he.

A French-built Mirage howled overhead as the spokesman said "distant targets" were being bombed by a supersonic aircraft. He said that these included Dilolo, Kapanga and Sando.

Hospital undergone surgery in Mafua for a kidney ailment, but suffered a relapse, about a week ago.

General Hickman indicated "Our chief endeavour is to maintain stability under the broad umbrella of law and order and defence, and one hopes we will get the best possible settlement."

General Hickman indicated that the Army was seeking fresh recruits. He added that black soldiers played a "vital role" in the armed forces. They provided manpower and "they served to involve blacks to a greater degree in Rhodesia's security".

He emphasized that the Army would use all means, including hot pursuit into neighbouring countries, to guard Rhodesian security during attempts to find a settlement.

General Hickman said Rhodesia could face increasing guerrilla attacks from Zambia in the north in the coming months. Guerrilla activity is at present concentrated "mainly" on the eastern and western borders.

Reuter and Agence France Presse

## Cento gives warning of threat to peace

Tehran, May 15.—The Central Treaty Organization (Cento) said today that world peace was threatened by failure to achieve a settlement in the Middle East. It called for renewed efforts to reach "a just, honourable and durable peace in the Middle East and the world".

The annual conference of the defence alliance, formerly the Baghdad Pact, was attended by Mr Cyrus Vance, the American Secretary of State, Dr David Owen, the Foreign Secretary, the foreign ministers of Iran and Turkey, and Pakistan's ambassador in Tehran. Dr Owen left by air for Britain today.

A statement issued after the two-day meeting expressed satisfaction with the improved situation in Lebanon and commended all countries that had contributed towards solving its problems.

The ministers also said they hoped the forthcoming Belgrade conference on security and cooperation in Europe would lead to further relaxation of international tensions. The ministers once again stressed that security in the Cento region

constitutes an important related element, the statement said.

The statement reported progress against threats of subversion in the Cento region and gave a pledge to go on trying to eliminate them. Asked at a press conference whether Mr Erol Haluk Bozoklu, the Secretary-General, said: "Propaganda and subversion."

The Cento ministers said the organization continued to contribute to the region's peace, security and stability.

They reaffirmed the vital importance they attach to the preservation of the independence and territorial integrity of each of the member states.

At this press conference Mr Bayukov expressed personal concern over "doubts" by the American Congress in ratifying a new arms agreement concluded a year ago between Turkey and the United States.

Mr Abbas Ali Khalatbari, the Iranian Foreign Minister, who also attended the press conference, said the question was a bilateral one and that the parties concerned had discussed it in the Cento region.

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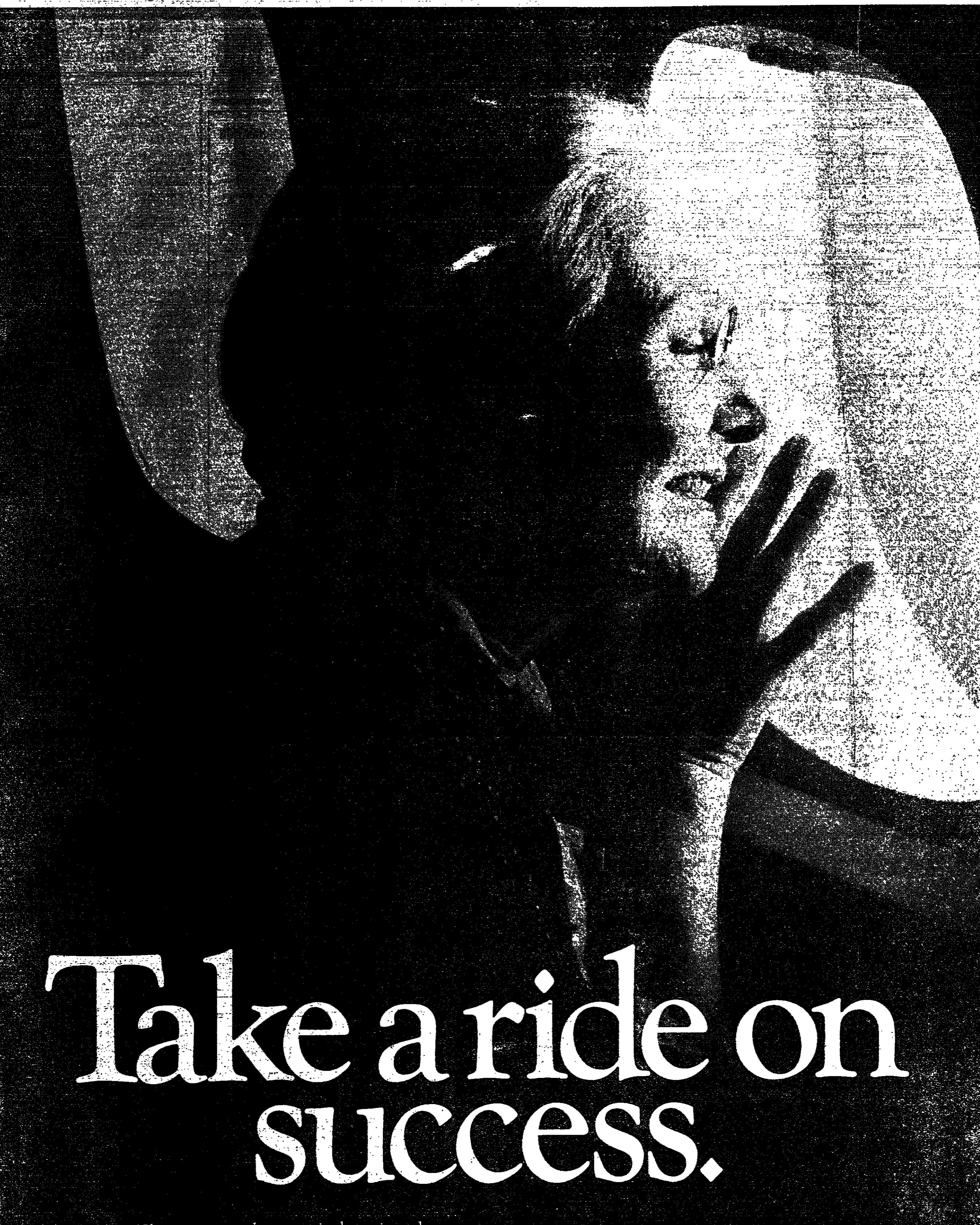
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THE OPEN UNIVERSITY

### PART-TIME TUTORIAL AND COUNSELLING STAFF

Applications are invited for the following part-time posts to take effect from January 1978:

#### COURSE TUTORS and TUTOR COUNSELLORS

In 1978 the University will be offering 117 courses in six broad areas: Arts, Educational Studies, Mathematics, Science, Social Sciences and Technology. The courses are based on an integrated structure of correspondence, assignments, radio and television broadcasts and a regionally organized tutorial and counselling system.

COURSE TUTORS are responsible for commenting on and grading students' written assignments, for replying to queries about students' work and for conducting tutorials, individually or study centres.

TUTOR COUNSELLORS have duties similar to Course Tutors in relation to the tuition of a group of students on one of the Foundation courses. They also have counselling responsibilities for a larger group of students on both Foundation and higher level courses, where they are required to give study advice to individual students and to help in organizing discussion groups at local study centres.

The time required for University duties varies according to individual contracts, but on average will occupy perhaps one evening per week or its equivalent for most of the year. Appointments will, in the first instance, be tenable for one year.

Applicants should be graduates or graduate equivalents. Recent teaching experience in further adult or higher education is highly desirable. For certain courses industrial experience would also be an advantage.

To obtain application forms and further particulars send a POSTCARD to the Tutors Office, The Open University, P.O. Box 52, Walton Hall, Milton Keynes, MK7 6AU. Early application is advised and completed application forms should be submitted to one of the University's Regional Offices by the closing date of Friday, 17th June.

It should be noted that it is likely that existing members of the tutorial and counselling staff will be reappointed to many of the posts on continuing courses. There has been no previous recruitment, however, for the 12 courses to be presented for the first time in 1978.

(Note: Existing members of the University's part-time tutorial and counselling staff will be sent application forms before the end of May, as a matter of course.)

### DAME ALLAH'S SCHOOLS (DIRECT GRANT/INDEPENDENT) NEWCASTLE UPON TYNE

The Governors of the three Schools invite applications for the post of:

Clerk to the Governors and Bursar

which will become vacant in accordance with the present Incumbent.

Applications should be submitted to the Governors, Dame Allon's Foundation, Newcastle upon Tyne, NE1 9JZ.

Applications must be received not later than Saturday, 25th June, 1977.

UNIVERSITY of Leicester—

Applications in Social Policy in the Department of Sociology are invited from graduates with a higher degree and of research in social policy for the post of Lecturer in Social Policy. Applications should be submitted to the Head of Department, Professor M. S. Miller, Department of Sociology, University of Leicester, University Park, Leicester LE1 7RH, by Friday, 15th June, 1977.

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UNIVERSITY of Newcastle—

Applications are

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SPECIAL REPORT

# DENTAL HYGIENE



## Prevention should have priority

by Dr C. E. Renson

The total cost to the nation of treating dental disease is about £220m a year. To the individual in terms of pain, loss of work and disfigurement is rather more difficult to calculate. It has been estimated that 12 million working days are lost each year because of dental disease.

The recent increases in dental charges are likely to exacerbate that situation. For routine treatment the patient's contribution has been raised from £3.50 to £5, and for more complex work involving crowning teeth the patient will have to pay up to £50 for what previously would have cost £3.50. For all dentures the patient's contribution has been raised from £12 to £20. The dental surgeon's fees are not increased by these charges.

For the patient, the increases will be prohibitive and will deter many who ought to seek dental treatment. It will discourage the regular attenders and put up a barrier against the irregular attenders for dental treatment, and these are in the majority. The British Dental Association (BDA) has opposed the new charges but Mr Emms, Secretary of State for Social Services, is adamant that they must remain. It is clear that dental health ranks low in the Government's order of priorities.

Although the incidence of many diseases has been reduced in this century, those diseases affecting the mouth and teeth have not been tackled in the same way.

Yet dental diseases are largely preventable. If plaque, the glutinous bacterial film responsible for decay and gum disease, is removed regularly from the gums and the teeth and if the intake of fluoride in the water supply is at the correct level, dental decay and gum disease can be controlled.

Government sponsored surveys of both adults and children in Britain have revealed quite hideous statistics.

In England and Wales 56 per cent of 16-year-olds and 50 per cent of natural teeth left 98 per cent of all adults over the age of 16

have some degree of gum disease, which leads to greater tooth loss than dental decay.

In the national survey

carried out on children's dental health in England and Wales in 1973 four fifths

of the 13,000 children

examined needed treatment for tooth decay or some other dental condition.

Although the Government has been sufficiently enlightened to sponsor surveys of dental disease, it has not yet seen fit to institute an effective preventive and public health programme. Yet it knows that such programmes have been effective in relation to so many other diseases.

Indeed, just a year ago the

Department of Health and

Social Security published a

consultative document under

the title *Prevention and*

*Health: everybody's business*,

which clearly acknowledges

the success of preventive

and public health measures

over the years.

In a chapter headed "The

Practicalities of Prevention"

the clear statement is made

that "few preventive

measures are effective or are

so easy to carry out as the

fluoridation of water

supplies. It has been estab-

lished beyond doubt as

being completely safe and

the most effective method

of substantially reducing

dental decay.

Yet of all recent initiatives

in preventive medicine this

one has been the most dis-

appointing in Britain, al-

though not in other

countries. Only 8.6 per cent

of the population of Brit-

ain is now receiving water

supplies containing fluoride.

It is true that the Govern-

ment has recently made

available a grant, which

averages out at a penny a

head a year, in connexion

with fluoridation, but that

is a ridiculous amount when

compared with the costs of

repairing broken down

mouths.

Over the years public

health and preventive

measures to combat dental

disease have been advocated

by the BDA, the dental pro-

fession at large and many

quasi-government bodies. As

long ago as 1956 a report of

a government-appointed

committee, headed by Lord

McNair, recommended that

a comprehensive national

programme of dental health

education should be mount-

ed to combat the public

ignorance of the impor-

tance of dental health, but

nothing was done.

In more recent times a

working party consisting of

members of the BDA and

the health department was

set up, in March 1972 "to

consider what factors are

relevant to the planning of

dental services during the

next 20 years and what steps

might be taken to improve

the nation's dental health".

The working party pub-  
lished reports which offered  
answers to questions related  
to emergency dental ser-  
vices; the need for more  
dental hygienists; the un-  
even distribution of dentists  
throughout the country;  
measures to be taken to pre-  
vent dental disease, but  
nothing was done.

The recent report of the  
Expenditure Committee, a  
select committee of the  
House of Commons, and the  
Social Services and Employment  
Sub-Committee, an all-party  
parliamentary body, under the chairmanship of  
Mrs Renée Short, MP,  
specifically recommends that  
more resources should be de-  
voted to an intensive cam-  
paign of dental health edu-  
cation, in schools and of the  
public at large.

It also recommends that  
more dental hygienists  
should be trained, and that  
locally applied fluoride  
materials should be available  
on the NHS. Those pre-  
ventive materials are not  
paid for by the NHS, al-  
though more than 80 per cent of all general  
dental practitioners use  
preventive materials in their  
practices. One of the diffi-  
culties is that only 40 per  
cent of the population attend  
for regular dental treatment.

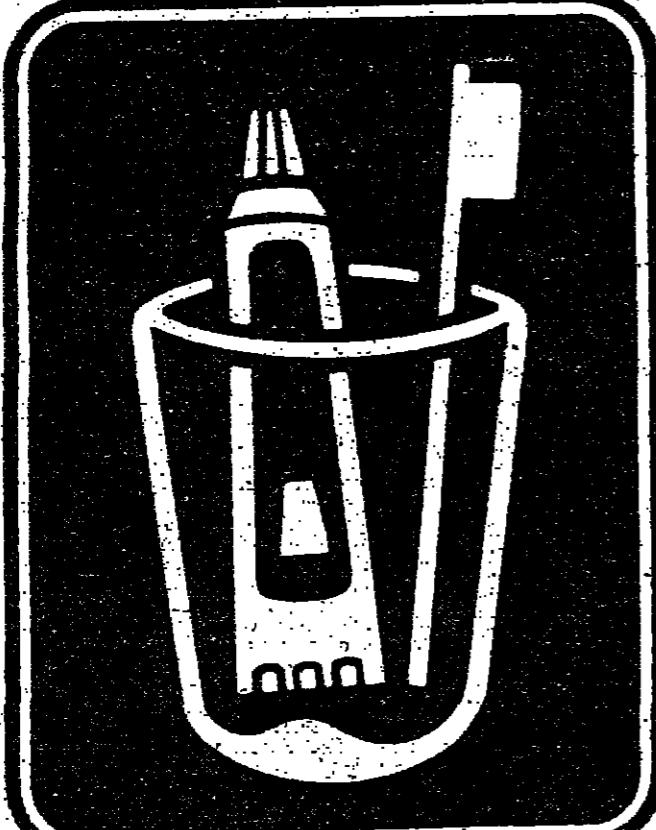
In December 1976 Mr  
Emms presented a report  
by the Committee on Child  
Health Services to Par-  
liament. The report, *Fit for  
the Future*, has a chapter on  
"The Path to Dental  
Health." It recommends that  
immediate steps should be  
taken to introduce fluori-  
dation on a national scale.

The committee com-  
mented: "If caries (dental  
decay) killed, fluoridation  
would have been mandatory  
for 20 years. The real  
obstacles are public apathy,  
minority prejudice and govern-  
mental reluctance to impose  
a political solution. The cost of unnecessary  
disease, personal pain and  
discomfort, misuse of pro-  
fessional resources and  
national expenditure has  
been immense."

It is clear that the Govern-  
ment acted. To quote from  
the Department of Health  
and Social Security's own  
document: "Prevention is  
the key to healthier living  
and a higher quality of life  
for all of us."

The author is reader in  
conservative dentistry and  
consultant dental surgeon,  
The London Hospital Medi-  
cal College, and chairman,  
dental health committee,  
British Dental Association.

## National Dental Health Action Campaign



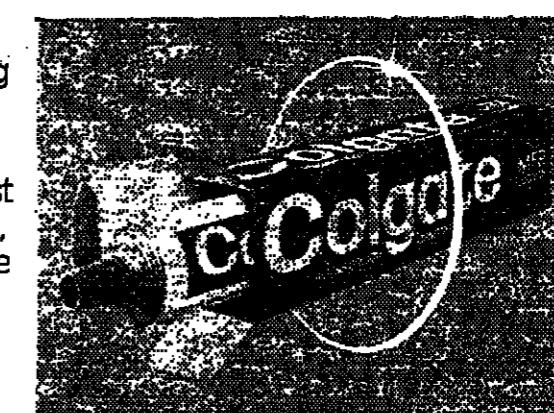
### ...is about keeping your teeth for life

In 1973 the Department of Health and Social Security conducted a survey on children's dental health in England and Wales. They discovered that by the age of 15 at least 97% of children had suffered from tooth decay. Other government statistical evidence shows that 2 in 5 of all adults have lost all their natural teeth.

The purpose of the National Dental Health Action week (May 16th-22nd) is to prove to everyone that all this is avoidable.

With a little constant care, teeth can be yours for life. It's as simple as regular cleaning of teeth and gums, and regular visits to the dentist.

Colgate-Palmolive, makers of Britain's best selling toothpaste Colgate plus MFP Fluoride, and Hoyt Laboratories, the Colgate-Palmolive professional division serving the preventive needs of Britain's dentists, are proud to have helped sponsor this important campaign.



### Colgate-Palmolive is proud to be a sponsor





ment is made enjoyable (above and on facing page) at the new children's dental unit at The London Medical College.

Diana Scarrott:

the start of the National Health Service, than £3,000 has been in Britain on the treatment of dental disease. The cost is now running just £350m, accounting for 6 per cent of all spending. Few diseases are as expensive. But what has the return, in terms of improved dental health, reduced suffering?

There will be no improvement of total expenditure, conserved for each tooth the pre-NHS National Health Insurance scheme had an average of 7.9 extractions and 1.3 fillings with the provision of dentures in more than 60 per cent of cases. Today, the average NHS course of treatment for an adult patient consists of 0.3 extractions, 1.4 fillings, and dentures for about one patient in 10.

There has been a steady decline in the provision of cases involving only emergency treatment for patients who do not wish to accept all the treatment necessary for dental fitness. In 1950, one patient in five had no treatment at all. By 1975, only one in twenty had no treatment.

These improvements in the pattern of treatment have taken place alongside a substantial increase in the number of teeth being treated. Today the ratio is 5.1:1. Similarly for 'milk' teeth, the number of teeth being treated for dental benefits under the NHS at present is found to be 1.5:1.

The rising volume of dental care for many children when parents would probably not take action. The extent to which children and young people are now becoming accustomed to regular dental care is one of the strongest pointers towards a better future for dental health in Britain. But perhaps the most convincing argument—in the absence so far of any worthwhile data from surveys at regular intervals—is simply the downward trend in the number of permanent teeth being extracted.

In the general dental service, the total has fallen steadily for many years, from 12,100,000 in 1960 to 7,900,000 in 1970 and 6,800,000 in 1975. A substantial increase in the life expectancy of natural teeth patients each year, initiating must surely have accom-

# Healthy teeth are our business.

As the makers of Macleans and Aquafresh, we have a vested interest in keeping teeth healthy.

That's why we continually test and re-test the effectiveness of both brands. And why our laboratories constantly look for ways of making them even more effective against decay.

And that's why we wholeheartedly support and endorse the National Dental Health Action Campaign.

So when we say healthy teeth are our business, we mean it.

Beecham Proprietaries, makers of Macleans and Aquafresh.

## Extracting the best from change

by A. S. Atkinson

There have probably been more changes in dental technology during the past 30 years than at any time since dental treatment is known to have been practised. Lasers, ultrasonics, air abrasive, "drills", air turbines, implants—all these and more have appeared, some to stay. A part of dentistry as we know it today, others to undergo further development or reassessment of their best role they can serve in the increasingly complex world of modern dentistry.

The patient entering a dental surgery, say 15 years ago, could expect to be served by the somewhat dreary "Christmas tree" dental unit, which provided the dentist with his drills, water sprays, air, lights, instrument table and even X-ray. To this was added the spittoon, with the familiar dental chair alongside. The equipment shown manufactured today shows some dramatic changes.

The dental chair has become an upholstered couch capable of almost any permutation of movement and positioning, largely powered by internal motors. Recognising the inherent stress and demands of present-day practice, there are an increasing number of dental chairs working in the seated position. This needs a chair capable of positioning the mouth so that the mouth is accessible without the dental practitioner having to bend over the patient.

The dental chair is now

fast having to put his stool of this instrument have as a group, are many of the ties, has not only brought

almost been put into the newer materials used in fillings.

Simple resins, those

without inorganic fillers,

have been used for many

years both in fillings and

depressions.

Recently two significant

advances have been made.

First, in simple resins have

been filled with inorganic

materials such as quartz,

to improve their properties

when used for restorations

and building up teeth, and

second, a technique making such

materials stick to enamel by

prior etching of the fractured

tooth.

Etching has the effect of

creating microscopic crevices

in the enamel to lock into

the technique allows a num-

ber of troubles, particularly

children's broken front teeth,

to be treated simply and

immediately with the minimum

of patient discomfort.

Despite lay impression to

the contrary, dentistry has

not had any truly adhesive

materials until recently when

carboxylate cements and

glass ionomer fillings

material were introduced. These

materials are capable of a

chemical bond with tooth

structure and this makes

possible a number of inter-

esting variations in estab-

lished dental filling tech-

niques.

Porcelain is a material

which enjoyed much popu-

larity as the first realistic

false tooth for dentures, but

was to some degree super-

seded when plastics

appeared. Recent

technology, improving the aero-

ultra-violet light and they,

the aesthetics and physical proper-

ties of this material back to be widely used as a denture root, but also in crowns and bridges.

A high-strength alumina porcelain has been developed and a bonding process, which fuses porcelain to gold and certain base metals, enables the dentist to use this very tooth-like material in situations unthinkable not so many years ago.

These are some of the main changes which have occurred in the routine of everyday dentistry. Space precludes mention of many equally significant advances such as implants, plastics coatings to protect teeth and twilight sleep for fillings. One could also conjecture for the future: lasers and perhaps even a vaccination against decay.

The history of dentistry has encompassed two ages—the era where technology and public demand dictated that extractions be the order of the day, now that the emphasis is on saving teeth. This has been made possible to an important degree by developments in materials and equipment. The signs are that we are entering the prevention era, which is a logical progression and one that surely will bring its own technology.

The author is consultant to the Amalgamated Dental Company and formerly senior technical officer in charge of dental standards, the British Standards Institution.

panied this steep decline in tooth mortality in the service which provides the great bulk of all adult treatment.

Dental health is an integral part of general health, and any National Health Service worth the name must continue to provide dental services for the whole community. The achievements of NHS dentistry since 1948 are not always or widely recognized. But if the politicians running the NHS keep their nerve, and the dental services intact, Britain's dental health record will be well on the way to becoming one of the best in the world, instead of one of the worst.

The author is assistant secretary, British Dental Association.

## Big spending brings its rewards

the start of the National Health Service, than £3,000 has been in Britain on the treatment of dental disease. The cost is now running just £350m, accounting for 6 per cent of all spending. Few diseases are as expensive. But what has the return, in terms of improved dental health, reduced suffering?

There will be no improvement of total expenditure, conserved for each tooth the pre-NHS National Health Insurance scheme had an average of 7.9 extractions and 1.3 fillings with the provision of dentures in more than 60 per cent of cases. Today, the average NHS course of treatment for an adult patient consists of 0.3 extractions, 1.4 fillings, and dentures for about one patient in 10.

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The author is assistant secretary, British Dental Association.

The Editor of 'The Times' on Peter Jay's appointment as ambassador in Washington

When I heard of Peter Jay's appointment as ambassador in Washington, I was sorry for *The Times's* sake, but otherwise delighted. Although I strongly disapprove of the unfair (and surely inappropriate?) criticism of Sir Peter Ramsbotham, I still think that Peter Jay's appointment is an excellent one. The criticism of Sir Jeter Ramsbotham is both unfair and absurd. It is part of an ambassador's job to entertain the leading society of the capital in which he is working, because that is the society which has influence. All ambassadors invite powerful, enterprising, influential, intelligent and if possible beautiful people to their dinner tables. If this is snobbery, it is necessary snobbery. The unsuccessful ambassadors are those to whose tables only the dull and stupid come. Sir Peter has not been among them.

Nevertheless the critics of the new appointment miss two crucial points. The first is that Britain's reputation among serious-minded Americans is not yet as alarming as any one who travels regularly in North America discovers. A new approach to that problem is fully justified. The

## The best man for the job

second is that much the greater part of the most important business to be transacted through the Washington embassy is now economic or trade business. The Foreign Service does not have an economist in the same class as Peter Jay. Yet these matters should be discussed with knowledge and with personal authority.

In the past few weeks I have happened to give a number of talks in the United States and Canada on the outlook for Britain. I have spoken to business groups, to a conference organized by the Canadian Progressive Conservative Party, to students, to the United States Senate Assistance and on radio and television. My views on the British situation are in line with those we have expressed in *The Times*. I think of myself as gloomy, but I found myself universally regarded as an optimist.

All the news from Britain has been so bad for so long that most Americans regard us as being in

unique trouble, as a society on the point of collapse. In my experience the Foreign Office line, which is understandably enough, one of general defence and support for the British record, is simply not believed.

If I had been asked to advise, with no idea of Peter Jay's appointment in my mind, I would have suggested that the next ambassador should be someone very good on television, preferably young and of dynamic appearance, able to deal convincingly and realistically with the most tough minded questions about the economic future of Britain.

As so often, the truth is the best propaganda. The truth is that British Leyland is not typical of British industry, but you cannot convince an audience of that unless you are frank about the trouble British Leyland is in. For all practical purposes the British message can only be carried on television, and the British ambassador will receive television

time largely in proportion to his ability as a performer.

I also welcome Peter Jay's appointment on other grounds. The war brought people forward very young. Gradually the postwar period has slipped back into the prewar or even pre-1914 pattern of slow and late promotion, even for the ablest.

Peter is exceptionally able. I have worked with him for more than 10 years. His intellectual gifts, if intellect consists of the capacity for the rapid analysis of complex concepts, seem to me to be superior to those of anyone I have worked with in journalism, or indeed of anyone I have met who is at present in the public service. Since the death of Tony Crosland, Peter has probably been cleverer than anyone on either Front Bench. This can hardly be regarded as a disqualification, as he is also extremely easy to work with, being loyal, kind and good humoured. I am also very grateful to him

personally for his development of the economic views of *The Times*. His own major change in economic thinking began in 1963, when he spent a very successful year working for the paper in Washington. It had been fascinating to follow the intellectual process that led to it.

If the highest offices are not to be open to men of such exceptional ability at the age of 40 (an age at which in action men were already regarded as elderly) then British life will be much too stuffy.

The fact that Peter Jay is the Prime Minister's son-in-law has nothing to do with it. It is a bad point and I was sorry to see some body as sensible as Mr Ian Gilmore take it. Prime Ministers who have been less able than Peter Jay are very lucky, as Prime Ministers who can't think seem to be their ambassadors. Some editors who write for their newspapers

I am on the side of merit, even if the Prime of Britain is not.

William Rees-Mogg

Eric Heffer

## Who says Mrs Thatcher will govern?

It is perfectly understandable, especially after the recent parliamentary by-elections, for Mr Thatcher to predict that her party will win the next general election. However, "there's

many a slip between cup and lip", and despite all that is being said and written, her victory is by no means certain. On the contrary, it is my view that the outcome of the next election could be similar to the situation in February 1974, with no party emerging with an overall working majority. If that happens that the growing political instability which has been a feature of our political life since 1974, will continue with serious long-term consequences.

However, the important question remains: Will the present Tory leadership, if elected to office, adhere to its pronouncements and its basic Tory philosophy, or will it, like other Tory political leadership before it, carry out a U-Turn?

I say this because if the free

market economy policies of Mrs Thatcher or Sir Keith Joseph, were put into practical

use, and the nation would be facing a very bleak prospect. It would be nothing short of a political tragedy, therefore, if she were to become Prime Minister not because of the voters' enthusiastic adherence to her philosophy but because of their discontent with the Labour Government's present policies.

The Russians should not assume that they can, so long as they present a constantly hostile aspect, count indefinitely upon economic and technical assistance from the West to protect them from the worst consequences of their disastrous agricultural system and their inefficient and technologically backward industry—especially when that assistance allows them to divert precious resources into the creation of a powerful and threatening military machine.

The military consensus, quite simply expressed, is that the Soviet Union is rapidly accumulating the capacity to go to war with very little warning and with a substantial expectation of success; and that even if it does not use that capacity in military operations, it will certainly exploit it as a decisive factor in its political dealings with the West.

This is the dilemma which the political leaders of the western alliance have to resolve. It is a sombre and profound responsibility. If the academic logicians are right, overreaction to the Russian military build-up might permanently destroy any possibility of a peaceful world in which conflicting political and ideological systems can pursue their legitimate interests without doing damage to each other; but, if the military grammarians are right, any delay in responding to the Russian challenge might lay the West open to a disastrous and irreversible defeat—possibly by force of arms, but, more probably, without a shot being fired.

It is for the Soviet Union to decide; but the West, in the meantime, cannot afford to take irresponsible risks with its security. The governments of the free world, not least that of Britain, must recognize that they can no longer try to

solve their immediate economic problems by backing away

from the survival of the West. It will prove whether the free world has the political will and cohesion to translate into reality the euphoric aspirations of the London conference. But, what is more important, the next move is essential for the Russians to make. If they are prepared to negotiate seriously across the spectrum of debate, and if they are prepared to

call a halt to their apparently endless accretion of military strength, the climate of international relations might be dramatically transformed. If, however, they show no disposition to conciliate, the implications are clear. There will not only be growing pressure on the West to return; there will be other consequences as well.

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resources into the creation of a

powerful and threatening

military machine.

A recent profile in *The*

*Times*, presented by Brian Con-

nell, gave us a good insight into Mrs Thatcher's philoso-

phy. It amounts to a right-

wing, old-fashioned Tory view of

society, but lacking the pat-

ernalism of some previous Tory

leaders.

It goes without saying that

some of the things she says

can be accepted by all of us.

For example, it is a truism to

say that people are different,

that the family unit is impor-

tant, that variety must be

maintained in society, and she

is right to oppose a 1984 solu-

tion to our problems. Where

Mrs Thatcher and Sir Keith

Joseph are wrong, however, is

that they believe such a night-

mare world could only come

from a dictatorship of the left.

In fact, there are even now

several states dominated by

right-wing politicians carrying

out 1984 policies in the name

of the preservation of the free

enterprise capitalist system.

The Pinochet regime in Chile

is a classic example; it has

already taken its dicta-

torial stage further by aboli-

shing all political parties,

even those on the right.

The Thatcher philosophy

can be summed up in two

words, "non-interference".

She uses the phrase "There

has been too much inter-

ference" repeatedly. Her view

is that the more people your

political philosophy enables

to be self-reliant and prosperous

by their own efforts, the fewer

you have to look after. Her

view, as she puts it, is to

make many of them as inde-

pendent as we can, making

their own decisions. It is the

"I'm all right Jack" syndrome

taken to the extreme. For

example, she says: "I very

much want every man and

woman to be a capitalist,

whether they are or not,

the means to support their own

decisions".

This is an impossible dream.

While it is true that in modern

large scale mass production

society, more people can own

more personal property, they

cannot all be capitalists. Mrs

Thatcher misunderstands the

meaning of the word capitalist.

It is not merely the ownership

of personal property, a land-

owner's property, but is

not necessarily a capitalist.

A capitalist is the owner of the

means of production, distribu-

tion and exchange, and every-

one cannot own the means of

production, etc. unless they do

so through the State. Then the

State becomes either state

capitalist or transformed into

state socialism through the

ballot box.

Although Mrs Thatcher

believes in freedom of the mar-

ket economy, the reality of

the author is Labour MP

Liverpool, Walton.

## LEAPMAN IN AMERICA



to see Dick Lavsky, President of the Society of Advertising, Music Producers, Arrangers and Composers. He formed the group a year ago so the jingle-writing community could fight oppression.

Lavsky, wearing a thick woolly cardigan, a open shirt and a neat beard, offered me a cup of soup when I arrived in his cramped office and studio. Mounds of technical equipment lined the studio walls. His office was furnished with musical instruments (a drum served as a soup table) and there was a cage of singing parakeets in the corner.

On the face of it, jingle writing more than women into men's

jobs.

writers have little to complain about. "Per minute of recorded time it is the highest paid sort of writing in the world," Lavsky said, sipping his soup and nibbling on saline crackers. That's why competition is so great.

"A jingle will last more than 28 seconds and the fee is anything between 2,500 and 7,500 dollars. But it is this

fierceness of competition, Lavsky maintains, which enables some advertising writers to take advantage of jingle

writers. The chief abuse is the free competitive demonstration, in which agents can get dozens of writers to write jingles on spec, but pay only for the ones they select.

The technique, as Lavsky describes it, is one of greatly concentrated expertise, and only about 200 people make a living at it," he said. "A jingle has to be an entity," he said. "It must have a beginning, a strong middle and a good close, all in 28 seconds. It has to tell a story and have a catchy tune."

He writes about 100 a year, and he led me to his listening room, perched me on a stool and played me a tape of some. It began slowly with a song for a new Boston newspaper before going on to one of his greatest hits, "The Purina Cat Chow Chow-Chow-Chow," sung by Eartha Kitt.



## NO COMMITMENT EITHER WAY

In her speech to the Scottish Conservatives at Perth on Saturday Mrs Thatcher confirmed and clarified the party's new position on devolution set out, though not without some confusion, by Mr Francis Pym two days before Mr. Lyman, the Conservative spokesman on devolution, had repeated his call for an all-party convention to determine the way ahead and had managed to do so in a reasonably positive tone. But after addressing the Scottish Conservatives he told a press conference that the party's previous commitment to a directly elected assembly was now inoperative in the sense that all commitments were, after the defeat of the present Scotland and Wales Bill.

The injudicious use of the word "inoperative" was widely taken to mean that the Conservative pledge to an assembly was dead and buried. So it may turn out to be, but that is too sweeping an interpretation at this moment. Mrs Thatcher made it clear that the party leadership wants to be able to enter a convention without its hands tied. Other words, the Conservatives intend to keep their options open as possible in order to determine their policy on devolution in the light of political circumstances after the next election.

This is unquestionably a retreat from the party's previous position. No longer are official Conservative speakers to be heard promising a directly elected legislative assembly. Even the word assembly is out of favour. Improvement in the government of Scotland is now

deemed to be the correct formulation—though devolution is evidently still regarded as an appropriate objective, provided that it is not clear precisely what this would involve. All this is very negative and must be offensive to those who believe that policy should be based on clear promises offered to the electorate for approval. But it stops well short of being an outright rejection of an assembly. Both Mrs Thatcher and Mr Pym spoke of the need for change in the system of government for Scotland. Mr Pym declared that "nationalism has in practice been the greatest enemy of devolution"—a proposition that is very different from the argument that devolution would pave the way for independence. And Mrs Thatcher evidently believes that some kind of assembly will come sometime.

Such a cautious stance may not be a glorious position for a major party to adopt on an issue of this consequence, but it accords with political realities. The Conservative party in the House of Commons is overwhelmingly opposed to devolution: in its present mood it would be likely to reject not only the Scotland and Wales Bill but any other one submitted to it with the same purpose. If Mrs Thatcher and Mr Pym had provided a ringing endorsement of the commitment to a directly elected assembly they could have justified this to their followers at Westminster only on the grounds that it was required by the force of opinion within the party in Scotland. Yet that was manifestly not the case at Perth. Scottish Conservatives are as com-

## SRAEL GOES TO THE POLLS

In general election being held Israel tomorrow does not, unfortunately, seem likely to take President Carter's efforts bring about peace in the Middle East any easier. The most he can hope is that it will not make them positively more difficult. At the time when Mr. Abba's Government resigned last December, provoking the dissolution of the Knesset and us bringing forward the election from the end of this year in the spring, the Labour Party seemed at last to have seized a political initiative and there was at least a chance that it would fight the election on the issue that really matters, asking a clear mandate to make concessions necessary for a full and lasting peace.

Indeed, the Labour Party, at its election programme could include a reference to territorial concessions "on all fronts"—that is, including the West Bank. Meanwhile the main allusion to Labour came from a new party, the Democratic Movement for Change, led by Professor Yaakov Yadin whose views on the issue were said to be similar, while those of his former, Professor Amnon Rubinstein, were if anything more hawkish.

The new party was strongly and justifiably critical of

foreign currency dealings. Opinion polls suggesting that it is from Labour, rather than Likud, that the DMC will take most of its votes are therefore highly plausible.

Mr Peres, who is certainly not a dove by reputation, has none the less sought to shift the emphasis back to the issue of peace, pointing to the unrealism of Likud's not-an-inch stand, while Likud has reacted by denouncing American pressure and promising to resist it. The American Administration is no doubt hoping that Mr Peres will survive as prime minister, but if he does so it is likely to be either in a coalition with both Professor Yadin and, once again, the intransigent National Religious Party, or in a national government including Likud, like that of 1967-70. In either case he will have plenty of alibis for stonewalling in peace negotiations if he wants to, and little room for manoeuvre if he does not. The timing of Mr Carter's pronouncements about the Palestinian homeland may have done Mr Peres' electoral chances little good. But those pronouncements, combined as they have been with a reassertion of America's "special relationship" with Israel and willingness to make sure that she has "adequate means" to defend herself, point forward to problems which the next Israeli government can hardly evade, whatever its composition and whoever its leader.

cost £400,000, and during the next year may cost £1m. The roll-call of names underwriting the broadsheet and its message still has nearly as much power to move me as an old retainer's son has to move me with his honours: Barclays, Couriers, Lloyds, Midland, National Westminster, Williams and Glyn, Yorkshire (can that be the old Penny Bank?), Bank of Scotland, Clydesdale, and Royal Bank of Scotland.

And what is the message? That there is a real public threat to nationalise the four main clearing banks? That's what the Labour Party's national executive committee (Nec) recommended last August in a pamphlet, called *Banking and Finance*. The Government and the Prime Minister are against bank nationalisation. Even so, that proposal was passed at the 1976 Labour Party conference.

Is it a "Mr Cube" advertising campaign all over again? That is the question. Politically, especially left-wing politicians, will immediately ask, in some sense, it clearly is. However, the political objective of building up public opinion and broad public opinion against the threat of nationalisation, that the big banks have been under more or less on that off, ever since the war, is a political reality.

But the motives and tactics of the big banks, which could bring more power to bear to influence the country against nationalisation, that the Labour Party could ever compete with, need a little more explanation.

Their campaign is for the time being neutralised, politically because Mr Callaghan, the Prime Minister, with the support of a majority of his senior ministers, has taken bank nationalisation out of politics. To learn how the banks can claim they are supporting the Prime Minister and the Government we must go back to the eve of last year's Labour Party conference in Blackpool. Mr Callaghan then told his left wing: "I should make my position clear. I will not be able to recommend the inclusion of this part of the Nec's proposal (nationalisation of banks and insurance institutions) in the next election manifesto. It would be an electoral aberration."

That stand alone has made the big banks' anti-nationalisation stance possible. Nobody who has occasional dealings with senior bankers can fail soon to sense that they are easiest of mind when governments pursue the middle way, living on the record for the bankers' instruction.

fused as a great many other people by the whole devolution question. Moreover, no matter what Mrs Thatcher and her colleagues might promise now it is unlikely that a future Conservative government could deliver a Scottish assembly unless there was a considerable change of heart within the party in England—and the history of devolution is disfigured by too many promises that for one reason or another were not kept.

It does not seem probable at this stage that whatever position the Conservatives adopted on devolution would materially affect their prospects at the general election. After twenty disastrous years for the party in Scotland, there is some confidence in their ranks that they will pick up at least a few seats next time. That will depend partly on how votes are distributed geographically between Labour, the SNP and the Conservatives. But the Conservative attitude to devolution before the election might critically affect the capacity of a Conservative government to deal with Scotland afterwards. It is regrettable but true that a great deal is likely to hang on the strength of the SNP in the next Parliament. If there are many more SNP members then English opinion may suddenly perceive the need for an assembly. The reputed criteria for "brain death" are still controversial. Doctors may consider that certain laws affecting their work are stupid and outmoded but that does not give them the right to take the law into their own hands. Moreover any claim to act for the good of society should be regarded with extreme distrust and even with alarm as there is a danger, definite even if it be slight, that such proclaimed altruism may be a high-flown expression to cloak outrageous acts.

Yours faithfully,  
M. H. PAPPWORTH,  
London, NW3.

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## avid Wood

## Hats off to the four big banks

Five years ago, I wrote for The Times an article about the big banks in the style that Philip Ward has since made his own. It is a failed "fourth" leader that is lamentably short of the Peter Warding model, and it received the top award of "proximus" so that it came to rest inconsequently on the Court Page, between the marriage announcements and the obituaries. Yet, on the bland surface, it had an eroded socio-economic importance.

The new party was strongly and justifiably critical of the big banks on internal issues, reflecting a mood of bitter disjunction with the prevailing reaction and cynicism of

the big banks, which until then money only to clients who used them did not need to borrow, employed on the counter only who could produce a receipt from the Archangel Gabriel, been forced to start advertising staff. It seemed the end of an that removed its hat on entering any bank either out of respect money or because banks before the merchants, were the private lies of bankers.

not then, of course, the public banking has altered out of fashion. Stone temples built basically on prime sites to outlast the centuries have given way to rick buildings with garish fronts and even neon lighting, and the books have no stars unless accompanied by a card that is beyond prove its owner lacks taste, at least between month packets.

anks advertise on television even the detergent, baked beans and cosmetics. No doubt it would be reckoned fuddy duddy, fashioned, even smobish, today, to sign or cry.

Sighs from me, therefore, at latest turn in big bank rising. Tomorrow they will be in newspapers as ever, I know. No 1, the first sale campaign that between now and political party conferences will

## Coroners and transplants

From Dr M. H. Pappworth

It is surprising that there has been no correspondence in your columns following the report from your Legal Correspondent which quoted an instruction to all coroners which stated: "The Home Secretary hopes that as it is not part of a coroner's function to place obstacles in the way of development of medical science or to take moral or ethical decisions in this matter, a coroner would never object in principle to a transplant operation."

Coroners will be aware that organs for transplant purposes must be removed as soon as possible after the death of the donor and the most effective way to ensure that this is possible is for the coroner to arrange a suitable routine with the hospitals in advance.

In other words, coroners are

being urged to allow bodies, particularly those who have been involved in accidents, to be eviscerated as "donors" without bothering to obtain the consent of the nearest relatives except in the unlikely contingency that documentary evidence is available that the victim had forbidden this.

In an issue of the *British Medical Journal* (February 19, 1977) it was claimed that in England the proposed results of liver transplants had been, above all, because surgeons now remove organs from "donors" whilst their hearts are still beating and they are still breathing. Does this mean that the previously accepted definition of death has now officially been replaced by the concept of "brain death"? May I point out the reputed criteria for "brain death" are still controversial. Doctors may consider that certain laws affecting their work are stupid and outmoded but that does not give them the right to take the law into their own hands. Moreover any claim to act for the good of society should be regarded with extreme distrust and even with alarm as there is a danger, definite even if it be slight, that such proclaimed altruism may be a high-flown expression to cloak outrageous acts.

Yours faithfully,  
M. H. PAPPWORTH,  
London, NW3.

## The cannibal biscuit

From Professor Alan Ward

Sir, The Food Standards Committee to which you refer in your third leader of May 12 (surely it should have been the fourth leader, of past memory) is well acquainted with misleading practices and descriptions. The leader refers to the later report of the Committee quoting from our report on *Flours and Malted Dextrins*. This Report is dated 1966 and is by no means our latest. Many reports have come from our reviews in the intervening period.

The Committee is currently reviewing again the entire field of labelling as is appropriate after an interval of more than 10 years, and necessarily will look again at its previous reports on the subject. One short paragraph from the 1966 Report refers to the general use of the term "digestive" on labels including its use for biscuits. At that time the Report recommended that the term "digestive" should not be used in the name of any food. No steps have been taken to implement this recommendation.

It does not follow that the Committee would, in today's circumstances, endorse the 1956 view or even consider the matter should occupy further time. At most it constitutes one of many similar areas where words are used with ambiguous meanings. While the Committee is, I am sure, flattered by the attention given to its work by *The Times*, it would prefer comment to be directed to rather more major areas of public concern. I am afraid the element of distortion in your leader does not encourage those, like myself, who have in the past thought it right to be helpful to your reporters when consulted by them.

Yours faithfully,  
ALAN G. WARD,  
Chairman of the Food Standards Committee, Department of Food and Consumer Science, University of Leeds, Leeds, Yorkshire, May 12.

## Tory labour relations

From Dr Roger Beson

Sir, Your political correspondent's article in *The Times* of April 27 on factory level wages emphasises that the so-called syndicalist approach to labour relations by Mrs Thatcher would not win applause from powerful unions.

Before analysing the big banks' reasoning, let me make clear where my heart lies, so that everybody is free to allow for subjective judgment or even bias, the nationalisation of banks and insurance companies would be disaster for the City and the country, and, as Mr Callaghan's "aberration" to do what in their hearts they want to do, without appearing to come down in favour of one party rather than another. It follows that if Mr Callaghan changed his mind, the surging out of bank treasure on an anti-nationalisation campaign would probably be promptly stopped. It would then turn from being a general political issue into a party political issue. Heaven forbid!

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After all, they present a target that the Labour left has aimed at persistently. While the Lib-Lab pact lasts, whether for a few months or a year, the financial institutions may be reckoned immune from threats. But as the general election comes near, Labour has to produce a socialist manifesto to stoke up party zeal, and it may be doubted whether Mr Callaghan, a born party manager, will by then have the authority, the will, or even the taste to enter into yet another last-ditch fight with a left-wing on the ascendant.

ROGER BESON,  
National Officer covering Glass, Ceramic and Textile Industries, Association of Scientific Technical and Managerial Staffs, East Road, Longsight, Manchester, April 27.

## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

### Next Ambassador in Washington

From Sir Cyril Pickard

Sir, I accept that it is of the greatest importance for the Foreign Secretary, if he wishes to make a change, to find the best man for the Washington job. I am not sure with Mr Neil Eskin (May 13) that is the only, though not the best, way.

Since I returned to England three years ago, I have been disturbed by the public opinion towards our political institutions and our political leaders. Mr Callaghan's appointment has been to do something to restore public confidence in the integrity of his office.

If this confidence is again forfeited, as a result of party and partisan criticism, largely from within the Labour Party and the inevitable attention given to these criticisms by the press and television, the damage done will outweigh any advantage which might be gained from Mr Jay's appointment.

In other words, coroners are being urged to allow bodies, particularly those who have been involved in accidents, to be eviscerated as "donors" without bothering to obtain the consent of the nearest relatives except in the unlikely contingency that documentary evidence is available that the victim had forbidden this.

It is this confidence which is again forfeited, as a result of party and partisan criticism, largely from within the Labour Party and the inevitable attention given to these criticisms by the press and television, the damage done will outweigh any advantage which might be gained from Mr Jay's appointment.

Yours faithfully,  
C. S. PICKARD,  
Sommer House,  
Oak Lane,  
Sevenoaks,  
Kent, May 13.

From Professor Alan Thompson

Sir, Some time ago I was chairman at a seminar of Scottish university students addressed by Mr Peter Jay. At the risk of embarrassing Mr Jay I would like to say that it was one of the most successful and refreshing public occasions I can remember. It was scholarly without being pretentious, witty without being offensively, and controversial (the audience he said) in a most civilized and decent manner.

At a time when in Scotland, a disturbing venom and an unpleasant pertinacity are creeping into our political life, this audience of Scottish students showed particular enjoyment and appreciation of a man who could express his views without reservation and could correct some of the sillier aspects of narrow insularity and intolerance with a stimulating view of the outside world.

The range of interests which the students represented—the rising generation of scientists, engineers, teachers, managers and other graduates—is by no means unimportant to the future of the United Kingdom and will have an eloquent spokesman in Washington in the person of Mr Jay.

Yours faithfully,  
ALAN THOMPSON,  
11 Upper Gray Street,  
Edinburgh.

May 13.

From the Reverend R. L. H. Lloyd

Sir, May I be informed of the amount which British Ambassadors to the United States have hitherto been expected to spend, since the newly appointed Ambassador is to receive the presumably reduced figure of £40,000 pa expenses.

Yours faithfully,  
R. L. H. LLOYD,  
Apple Garth,  
35 Tudhoe Village,  
Spennymoor,  
Co. Durham, May 13.

## Labour and the banks

From Mr Anthony Taylor

Sir, Norman Atkinson, in his letter published on May 10, reveals a studied ignorance of the banking system. Surely even he can



## COURT CIRCULAR

BUCKINGHAM PALACE  
May 15: Mr M. J. Nadin (Commissioner, Royal Canadian Mounted Police) handed over the Queen at Windsor Castle the Royal Canadian Mounted Police Horse "Centaur" which was presented to Her Majesty in 1973.

His Excellency the High Commissioner for Canada and Mr Martin, Inspector A. L. Andrew and Inspector J. D. Walker (Royal Canadian Mounted Police) and Mr R. H. Noyes (Public Affairs Commissioner) were present and later, with Mr M. J. Nadin, had the honour of being invited to luncheon with The Queen and the Duke of Edinburgh.

The Queen, Susan Hussey, Lieutenant-Colonel Sir John Miller and Major Robin Broke were in attendance.

May 14: The Prince of Wales attended the Historic Aircraft Display at White Waltham Aerodrome, Maidenhead.

THATCHED HOUSE LODGE  
May 14: Princess Alexandra and the Hon. Princess Anne today attended the Clan Gathering of the Frasers and Macraes at Elleson Dean Castle, Kintail.

Her Royal Highness and the Hon. Angus Ogilvy, who travelled on behalf of the Queen, later attended the Grand Finale of the International Gathering of the Clans at Bught Park, Inverness.

In the evening, Princess Alexandra and the Hon. Angus Ogilvy were present at a Ceilidh, in aid of the Provost's Benevolent Fund, at Eden Court Theatre, Inverness.

The Hon. Mary Fitzalan-Howard was in attendance.

A memorial service for the Earl of Selborne will be held on Monday, May 23 in the Guards Chapel, Wellington Barracks, at noon.

### Birthdays today

Professor Norman Davis, 64; Major-General John French, 71; Mr Geraint Jones, 60; Sir John Pether, 65; the Earl of Portsmouth, 79; the Right Rev K. J. F. Stedman, 59; Sir Ralph Stevenson, 82; Sir Charles Wilson, 68; Sir Richard Yeabsley, 73.

### Marriages

Mr R. J. Sinclair and Miss S. M. Dolphin. A service of blessing, at which the Rev D. P. Lane officiated, took place on Saturday at St Matthew's Church, Cheltenham, after the marriage between Mr Robert Sinclair, younger son of Major-General Sir John and Lady Sinclair, of East Ashling, Sussex, and Miss Sarah Dolphin, only daughter of Mr and Mrs C. E. H. Dolphin of Langford, Lechlade, Gloucestershire.

A reception was held at the home of the bride and the honeymoon will be spent abroad.

Mr P. R. Sheridan and Mrs P. A. Dawson-Ellis. The marriage took place in London on May 12 between Mr Patrick Sheridan and Mrs Penny Dawson-Ellis.

Mr E. W. Woods and Miss S. Voorspuy.

The marriage took place on Saturday at St Peter's, Polkinghorne, East Sussex, between Mr Edward Wilson Woods, younger son of the Bishop of Worcester and Mrs Woods, of Hartlebury Castle, Kidderminster, Worcestershire, and Miss Sorrel Voorspuy, only daughter of Mr and Mrs Christopher Voorspuy of Polkinghorne Place, Polegate, Sussex. The bridegroom's father officiated, assisted by the Rev Philip Sheridan.

The bride, who was given in marriage by her father, was attended by Terence Moore, Mr. Wilson, Don Alfonso Urtiz, Mr. David Wager, Mr. Michael Mansfield, Lady Julia Percy, the Hon. Mrs Adeloupe, Lady Zara Jeffcoate and Miss Vanessa de Lise.

## Christian attitude to sexual morality 'irrelevant'

By Clifford Longley  
Religious Affairs Correspondent

A revolution in Christian attitudes to sex, with the emphasis on sexuality as an instrument of personal development, is advocated in a book by a leading Roman Catholic psychiatrist published today. When a summary of his argument appeared in the magazine *The Table* earlier this year there was considerable controversy and the book is expected to cause a stir.

The author is Dr Jack Dominic, head of the psychiatric department at Central Middlesex Hospital and a specialist on marriage breakdown. He admits in his book that his views are contrary to some of the teachings of his church, but claims the right to disagree.

In the context of his emphasis on personal growth and

maturity, he argues that masturbation should not be regarded as sinful but as possibly beneficial, and he condemns neither oral nor anal sexual intercourse in marriage.

Dr Dominic, the author of several books on marriage and sexuality, was an official consultant to a Church of England commission on marriage and divorce in the 1960s and is well known in church circles, both Anglican and Roman Catholic. Later this year he is to receive an honorary degree from Lancaster University.

He says he became a psychiatrist because he thought Christianity was inadequately represented in that profession.

The new book, *Proposals for a new Sexual Ethic*, expounds the view that the classic Christian framework for considering sexual morality is irrelevant in an age where sexuality is under human control

and the psychological sciences have explored the deep significance of sex on personality.

In his book Dr Dominic says Christianity has become identified with opposition to sexual pleasure which is only natural within marriage. "By making sexual pleasure and biological openness to life the key to all morality, the theologian had a simple task, but as a result the church has a theology of sexuality whose simplicity tends towards naivety."

A number of Anglican and Roman Catholic theologians are giving a cautious welcome and refusing to comment publicly until they have studied it in detail.

The General Synod of the Church of England has a private member's motion down calling for "a new look at the whole theology of Christian sexuality in the light of present theological and psychological

understanding" and it is thought that the book will figure prominently in the debate.

Dr Dominic says there is still a conviction, particularly among churchmen, that adolescent masturbation is harmful and sinful. He writes: "One way of exploring and accepting a separate sexual identity is through the new dimensions of the body are discovered and their intrinsic goodness acknowledged and incorporated in the emerging personality."

"The pubescent body is not primarily designed for procreative purposes; it is a stage of identity growth which prepares the way for adult personal relationships. To bring forward the application of sexual morality of marriage to puberty is a notion that has no possible justification."

*Proposals for a new Sexual Ethic*, by Dr J. Dominic (Darton, Longman and Todd, £1.50).

### Forthcoming marriages

Mr A. C. Corbett and Miss S. E. Obbard

The engagement is announced between Charles Corbett of Bordon Farm, Chichester, West Sussex, son of the late Mr R. H. Corbett of Bawdsey Farm, Hursley, Winchester, and Susie, daughter of Mr and Mrs G. W. N. Gobert, MBE, of Chichester, West Sussex, and of Mrs T. P. Whitaker, of Jude Farm, Ropley, Bordon, Hampshire.

Mr T. J. C. Eggar and Miss C. D. Almonsey

The engagement is announced between Timothy, eldest son of Mr and Mrs J. D. Eggar of Shipley, Oxfordshire, and Charlotte, daughter of Mr and Mrs P. W. V. Minoprio, of Vicenza, Italy, SW1, and Luxembourg.

Mr M. W. Howroyd and Dr M. N. Pearl

The engagement is announced between Michael, son of the late Squadron Leader D. W. S. Howroyd, of Kedleston, Essex, and Kathleen, third daughter of Mr D. F. Pearl, of Merton, Surrey, and Mrs Pearl, of Tunbridge Wells.

Mr G. C. Maxwell and Miss A. Durst

The engagement is announced between Wellington George Charles, only son of Major and Mrs G. C. Maxwell, of Delarden House, Moor Park, Farnham, Surrey, and Anne, daughter of Mr and Mrs C. E. H. Dolphin of Langford, Lechlade, Gloucestershire.

Mr J. P. Tetley and Miss P. A. Weston

The engagement is announced between R. A. Hobson, of Whitley, Northamptonshire, and Penelope, daughter of Mr and Mrs E. C. Weston, of Little Shrewsbury, Warwick.

Mr P. H. J. Tobias and Miss J. Petrovitch

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### Luncheon

Staffordshire Society

The Staffordshire Society held its annual Spring luncheon at Newcomen's Room, Look on Samson, Nancy Lady Eggar was installed as president by Sir Maurice Duran, outgoing president.

### Reception

Royal Society of Medicine

Sir Gordon Wodenholme, President of the Royal Society of Medicine, accompanied by Lady Wodenholme and Dr Alexander C. Smith, President of the Medical Foundation in New York, received the guests at a reception held yesterday evening at Chandos House, before the Anglo-American conference on the influence of litigation on medical practice.

### Service reception

No 16 Squadron Association

The annual reunion of the No 16 Squadron Association was held at the RAF Club on Saturday. Wing Commander W. I. C. Stoker, a commanding officer of the squadron, was present and the guests included the president and chairman of the association, Air Commodore J. R. Forster and Group Captain A. L. Bennett.

### Service dinner

208 (Mensyside) General Hospital RAMC (Volunteers)

Officers of 208 (Mensyside) General Hospital RAMC (Volunteers) held a regimental dinner at their headquarters, Crawford House, Liverpool, on Saturday. The chairman of the association, Mr. Cross, presided and among the guests was the Honorary Colonel, Colonel T. L. Hobday.

### Partliamentary diary

House of Commons

Princess Margaret on the Downing Street steps, and the Queen Mother in Hanover Square, were the guests of honour at the opening of the new Finance Bill, which was introduced yesterday. The Finance Bill read first stage, and the Finance Select Committee, the present chairman of which is Mr. Cross, presided and among the guests was the Honorary Colonel, Colonel T. L. Hobday.

### Parliamentary notices

House of Commons

Today at 2.30: Private members' debate on the Motion for second reading of the Bill 1174 (Amendment to the Finance Bill) read first stage.

Thursday, May 12: Debate on the Motion for second reading of the Finance Bill, read first stage.

Friday, May 13: Debate on the Motion for second reading of the Finance Bill, read first stage.

Saturday, May 14: Debate on the Motion for second reading of the Finance Bill, read first stage.

Sunday, May 15: Debate on the Motion for second reading of the Finance Bill, read first stage.

Monday, May 16: Debate on the Motion for second reading of the Finance Bill, read first stage.

Tuesday, May 17: Debate on the Motion for second reading of the Finance Bill, read first stage.

Wednesday, May 18: Debate on the Motion for second reading of the Finance Bill, read first stage.

Thursday, May 19: Debate on the Motion for second reading of the Finance Bill, read first stage.

Friday, May 20: Debate on the Motion for second reading of the Finance Bill, read first stage.

Saturday, May 21: Debate on the Motion for second reading of the Finance Bill, read first stage.

Sunday, May 22: Debate on the Motion for second reading of the Finance Bill, read first stage.

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Thursday, May 26: Debate on the Motion for second reading of the Finance Bill, read first stage.

Friday, May 27: Debate on the Motion for second reading of the Finance Bill, read first stage.

Saturday, May 28: Debate on the Motion for second reading of the Finance Bill, read first stage.

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Monday, May 30: Debate on the Motion for second reading of the Finance Bill, read first stage.

Tuesday, May 31: Debate on the Motion for second reading of the Finance Bill, read first stage.

Wednesday, June 1: Debate on the Motion for second reading of the Finance Bill, read first stage.

Thursday, June 2: Debate on the Motion for second reading of the Finance Bill, read first stage.

Friday, June 3: Debate on the Motion for second reading of the Finance Bill, read first stage.

Saturday, June 4: Debate on the Motion for second reading of the Finance Bill, read first stage.

Sunday, June 5: Debate on the Motion for second reading of the Finance Bill, read first stage.

Monday, June 6: Debate on the Motion for second reading of the Finance Bill, read first stage.

Tuesday, June 7: Debate on the Motion for second reading of the Finance Bill, read first stage.

Wednesday, June 8: Debate on the Motion for second reading of the Finance Bill, read first stage.

Thursday, June 9: Debate on the Motion for second reading of the Finance Bill, read first stage.

Friday, June 10: Debate on the Motion for second reading of the Finance Bill, read first stage.

Saturday, June 11: Debate on the Motion for second reading of the Finance Bill, read first stage.

Sunday, June 12: Debate on the Motion for second reading of the Finance Bill, read first stage.

Monday, June 13: Debate on the Motion for second reading of the Finance Bill, read first stage.

Tuesday, June 14: Debate on the Motion for second reading of the Finance Bill, read first stage.

Wednesday, June 15: Debate on the Motion for second reading of the Finance Bill, read first stage.

Thursday, June 16: Debate on the Motion for second reading of the Finance Bill, read first stage.

Friday, June 17: Debate on the Motion for second reading of the Finance Bill, read first stage.

Saturday, June 18: Debate on the Motion for second reading of the Finance Bill, read first stage.

Sunday, June 19: Debate on the Motion for second reading of the Finance Bill, read first stage.

Monday, June 20: Debate on the Motion for second reading of the Finance Bill, read first stage.

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WILCOX A Conservative film maker industrial policy for Britain, page 19

## Downing St talks for GEC chief this week in Drax merger conflict

By Roger Vielvoeck  
Energy Correspondent

Protracted controversy over an advanced order for the second stage of the Drax power station and the reorganization of the turbine-generator manufacturers is expected to reach a climax this week with a summit meeting between the Prime Minister and Sir Arnold Weintraub, managing director of GEC.

It is expected that Mr Callaghan will warn Sir Arnold that unless GEC agrees to a merger with C. A. Parsons on terms acceptable to the Government, the rival C. A. Parsons company will receive the valuable order for the turbine generators at the £600m Drax coal-fired station.

Mr Callaghan took charge of the negotiations last week and is due to go to Parliament to seek an order which would be placed with the minimum of delay, regardless of other factors. It is now clear that the Government is prepared to sacrifice its previous objective of a rationalized power generation industry before the Drax order is placed.

While the Prime Minister would like to have the broad outlines for an order and a merger cleared up within a week, there are no clear indications that GEC intends to alter its policy of requiring complete control over a single turbine generator manufacturing company.

Sir Arnold's invitation to Downing Street came after Mr. Harold Lever had been brought to the scene by Mr. Callaghan and asked to convey the new Government thinking on the terms for a merger to GEC.

Only three weeks ago, the Cabinet looked to be on the verge of agreeing to Sir Arnold's pushing through a merger with the C. A. Parsons side of the Reynolds-Parsons group which would give the GEC group complete control of



### Agreed bid terms for Cavenham due today

By Desmond Quigley

Terms for the takeover of the British food company Cavenham by Sir James Goldsmith's master vehicle Générale Occidentale will be announced today—and this time the terms are almost certain to have been agreed between the various parties.

The last bid by Sir James in January for the 49 per cent minority holdings failed because of strong opposition from institutional shareholders of Cavenham and from merchant bankers, Samuel Montagu, who had been retained to represent the Cavenham's outside shareholders. Then, Sir James dropped his 120p a share bid, which had valued Cavenham at £55m.

It is now widely believed that the new bid will be pitched at around 155p-160p, representing a compromise between Sir James's original plans and the 180p Montagu was reportedly holding on for.

On Friday Cavenham asked the Stock Exchange for a temporary suspension of its shares pending an announcement.

Another factor in the Cavenham situation is the bearing the takeover will have on Sir James's newspaper proprietorship ambitions. Cavenham holds 40 per cent of the non-voting shares in Beaverbrook Newspapers, representing about one-third of the Beaverbrook

group. Beaverbrook is retaining 30 per cent.

The National Enterprise Board would have overseen the merger and then dropped out of the picture.

GEC, which is not an admirer of the way Parsons has conducted itself, is still anxious to have complete control over the reorganized manufacturing group. But it is now likely to be offered only a 49 per cent stake in a merged company with C. A. Parsons and the NEE holding the controlling balance.

Mr. Bann, Secretary of State for Energy, is due to face questions from MPs today on additional costs which electricity consumers will have to bear if the Central Electricity Generating Board carries all or most of the additional interest charges involved in the early ordering of the Drax station.

Now officials are hoping that names will be published

Price panel members may be named soon

From Bob Crew  
Dannham May 15

Although the original fire in the Abqaiq oil installations in Saudi Arabia has now been put out above ground, an explosion in pump number 4 has set the oil underground ablaze.

The explosion was caused by the excessive heat of the fire that has raged above ground since 3.20 pm last Wednesday and there is now a danger that fire underground, further oil will be lost and damage incurred.

While the underground pipeline has been turned off it still contains the oil that was inside it before the taps were turned off at the original outbreak of fire.

Dr. Alan Budd, formerly at the Treasury, argues that holding down the exchange rate is the means by which changes in the money supply become converted to domestic inflation. When money supply expands too fast, as it did in early 1976, he argues,

far from being contained, the Abqaiq blaze is now rage under as well as above ground and on Saturday evening and this morning Aramco were rushing in fire-fighters and technical experts from all over the eastern province to meet the new challenge.

According to informed sources at Aramco, the Abqaiq oil production—which equals 60 per cent of Saudi Arabia's total oil production—is down 80 per cent. The same sources insist that there is a total of six known deaths, including two people killed on Friday morning. They say that some Britons are among the dead.

The repair operations on the damaged installations are expected to take five or six months.

### June IMF gold sale by 'Dutch auction'

Washington, May 15. The International Monetary Fund will hold its next sale of \$25,000 ounces of gold on June 1 and will use a "Dutch auction" or auction price selling method.

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Reducing the basic advance deposit to \$25,000 may bring a larger number of bidders to the June 1 sale.

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## Union to contest TUC rule on representation

By Derek Harris

The Engineers and Managers Association (EMA) is contesting a TUC general council ruling that only trade unions affiliated to the Confederation of Shipbuilding and Engineering Unions (CSEU) should be able to recruit and organize staff and managers in British Aerospace and British Shipbuilding, the two new public corporations.

EMA, whose general secretary is Mr. John Lyons, is already clashing with a number of TUC-affiliated unions because of the EMA drive to expand its membership among professional engineers.

There could be as many as 15,000 potential union members at stake in the aerospace industry, at staff level, which is traditionally weak in unionization and even in the formation of staff associations.

But an immediate clash could come in the shipbuilding sector where the Shipbuilding and Allied Industries Management Association (SAIMA) has about 1,600 members, about 60 per cent of the managerial staff in that part of the industry being nationalized.

SAIMA, an independent staff organization, has had exploratory talks on linking with

## Nube aims to disrupt Standard Chartered

By Christopher Thomas  
Labour Reporter

Disruption of the Standard Chartered Bank is planned this week by the National Union of Bank Employees with a programme of selective stoppages and a policy of non-cooperation.

Mr. Stephen Gamble, Nube assistant secretary, said last night that the action was planned to cause maximum embarrassment to the bank in protest at a proposal to reduce pension entitlement by up to 12.5 per cent.

He added: "The bank gained the Queen's Award to Industry last year thanks to the efforts of the staff. Now some people are faced with the prospect of a pension clawback."

The bank's proposal will affect new employees from May 3. Mr. Gamble said no assurance had been given that existing staff would not be affected.

The union sees this as the thin end of the wedge. The union claims 1,400 members in the bank. Today it plans action among mail room clerks and messengers, and a walkout at the bank's printing centre. Peace talks with management are expected to take place during the week.

## Hovercraft delay puts Seaspeed out of race

By Patricia Tisdall  
From Mr. Norman E. Griggs

Delay caused by hovercraft fire damage and design changes means that Seaspeed, the joint British and French railway cross-Channel hovercraft operators, will lose heavily on this year's expected tourist growth.

The difficulties mean that Seaspeed will be operating with only half last summer's hovercraft capacity to meet increases of 30 per cent or more expected in cross-Channel tourist traffic.

Seaspeed, criticized for its slowness in meeting demand, had hoped to increase its capacity by more than 20 per cent this summer by introducing a fourth craft from the British Hovercraft Corporation next month.

However, a fire earlier this month at Sedan, the French manufacturer's plant at Bordon, has seriously delayed the launch.

A Seaspeed spokesman said French engineers had speeded work on a second model of the N-500 hovercraft, but it was not expected to be in operation until the end of this year at the earliest.

The new hovercraft can carry 385 passengers and 45 cars, almost double the capacity of existing models.

Meanwhile, Seaspeed has taken one of its existing two British-built Mountbatten class craft out of service. It has been sent back to the British

Hovercraft Corporation to have a £2m new section inserted.

The process will increase its passenger carrying capacity from around 250 to more than 400 and the number of car spaces from 30 to 60, but the hovercraft will not be back in service until next March.

The combination of circumstances, the seriousness of which is only just being appreciated, leaves Seaspeed with only one small craft on the cross-Channel route.

Some of the lost business will inevitably go to Seaspeed's private industry competitors. Hoverloyd, the Swedish-owned company operating out of Ramsgate, is expecting delivery of a fourth craft from the British Hovercraft Corporation next month.

P. & O. Normandy Ferries, which started operating from Dover to Boulogne last year, is hoping to pick up extra passengers.

European Ferries' Townsend Thoresen is starting an extra service to France from Portsmouth and hopes for additional business on its conventional ferries.

Last year, the two Seaspeed hovercraft operating out of Dover and three similar craft run from Ramsgate by Hoverloyd accounted for about 30 per cent of all cross-Channel car and passenger traffic.

## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

### Home loans and the true rates of interest

### Proposal to levy VAT on clubs

From Mr. H. G. Thomas

Sir, I should like to alert readers to a rather obscurely placed provision in the current Finance Bill, which was not mentioned in the Chancellor's Budget speech. This is paragraph 13 of the sixth schedule.

At present bodies such as

clubs, associations and societies are divided into those which provide "advantages" to their members and those which are not defined, but it is known that facilities would include such matters as food and accommodation. The provision of advice, for example, would be an advantage. Bodies which provide facilities must add VAT to their subscriptions, while those which provide advantages only pay VAT if they elect to do so.

Under the new legislation all such bodies will have to charge VAT.

These associations and societies cover a wide spectrum of activities beneficial to the community. Learned and cultural societies as well as a wide range of agricultural, recreational and sporting organizations come to mind as examples, but there will be many others. In many if not most cases, the majority of such associations will not be carrying on a business and will not be able to recover the input tax.

There is still time for organizations to make their opinions known to MPs, to the Treasury and to ministers. If they do not like the new proposals, it is essential that they should act promptly.

Yours faithfully,  
H. G. THOMAS  
Taxation Adviser  
Country Endowments  
Association, 16 Belgrave Square,  
London SW1X 8PO.

### EEC restrictions on handloom garments from India

From Mr. Ian MacArthur

Sir, I feel that some correction

is required in your columns to the inaccurate and misleading letter (May 9) of Mr. Ales Hankev about the recent EEC measures to restrain the imports of certain handloom garments from India.

Mr. Hankev refers to the "virtual banning" of

imports of clothing made up from handloom fabric. This is

entirely untrue. For 1977, the

EEC has authorized the import

of up to 44 million shirts and

blouses from India, of which

the vast majority will be hand-

loom, and the United Kingdom

has agreed to accept no more

than 13 million imports of all other

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BY THE FINANCIAL EDITOR

## Institutional funds looking for a home



Mr. Sydney Mason, chairman of Hammerson Property, spurning inflation accounting.

criticized by the inspectors appointed by the Secretary of State for Trade have been taken back with equal vigor if not with the same enthusiasm. The subcommittee of the subcommittee of the financial committee, which is not a separate committee, but is a committee of the main committee, has been very much a case of "going gingerly".

What has in fact happened is that little further has been done.

An increasing number of rights issues — now up to 250m for the year — some lumpy takeovers

deriving from the scope of the investigation.

Now the Norwex Holt affair

— the company is seeking a declaration in the courts that the Secretary of State's appointment

of inspectors is unlawful

— has party taken

pressure. But the fact

is that large sums of

money have been trying to find

their way into the equity

market. In spite of the

fact that the money has still

been able to edge into the

market relatively slowly.

With the medium-term pro-

ject for the economy generally

considered promising, more

fundamentalists have

undoubtedly taken the view

that they risk more in being

left behind in the present

market than in paying prices

which never hits the head-

lines. The second is to appoint

inspectors under Section 165 of

the Companies Act 1948; in-

cluding the power to make

them liable to a maximum

penalty of £100m, this money has still

been able to edge into the

market relatively slowly.

The second form of inquiry

is announced publicly: it is a

full dress affair, and it follows

that the Department of Trade

does not want to waste its

time on this and in

the meantime should have

plenty of time to move in-

to the market.

The factor, of course, is the

delayed sale of more

in £500m of BP stock. If the

news is right in saying that

institutions have already

marked the cash, the

fact that the sale need be little

more than neutral. If, on the

other hand, it were to emerge

that more BP stock than antici-

ated was to go abroad, the

implications for domestic

equities markets could, to say

least, be interesting.

## Investigations questions on procedures

he was when a Department of Trade inspection and the consequences thereof were things to be endured by those subject with the best grace

and the best muster. But not, it seems, any longer.

Recently we have had cases

which those who have been

influential visitor to Britain

— week is Raymond Voué, who emerged from the Lillepont obscurity of Luxembourg last year to take over

European Commission's inspection department after the death of his compatriot, Albert Borschette.

One of Voué's main tasks is to keep a vigilant eye on the port given by EEC member

countries to their national industries. In principle these are prohibited under the Rome

agreement as a form of unfair competition.

Among the ministers he will

see are Messrs Eamonn, Var-

Kaufman and Hattersley.

He will also visit the McAlpine

rig construction yard at

Tyne Point; Gowan Shipbuil-

ers in Glasgow, and Leyland

factories.

One of the main items for

discussion is likely to be the

compatibility with EEC rules of

interest relief granted by

government to finance pur-

chases of offshore installations in the North Sea.

The Commission's main obser-

vation is that this aid is only

available for equipment pur-

chased from British manufac-

turers. Both sides to the dis-

pute appear confident that

compromise will eventually be

reached, though probably not at

this round of talks.

**Epic**

Whatever the forthcoming film

of the British battle, "A Bridge Too Far", may do for the filmgoers of that epic conflict, it does

not do about a fourth of good

to the financials of Deventer in the eastern Netherlands.

Deventer was where the film

was shot last year, and it has

spent there is roughly about a

quarter of the total cost of the

film, claimed by the producer

Sir Richard Attenborough

and the director, Mario

Carriera.

About £2m alone was spent

on building garden houses, a

full-size church and remodeling

the Hattersley Hotel, at one

time or another during the

battle both the German and the

Allied headquarters.

Three Dutch firms were under

contract for months, painting

and repainting the Deventer

bridge. Some of the building

materials came from Germany,

and associates, producer John

Palmer borrowed Dekota air-

craft used to drop parachutists

from the Spanish and Danish

air forces.

British theatrical costumes

were stripped of English, Ger-

man and Polish uniforms of the

period. About 1,500 Deventer

actors were hired to do over

15,000 days' work, and Dutch

cinematographers

and technicians

from all over the world.

Richard Attenborough

and Joseph E. Levine

and the Deventer set.

Grocers happily dispensed each

day around 260lb of posties

1,000 rolls, 80 loaves and 240lb

of meat.

The film, based on the book

of the same name by the late

Cornelius Ryan and directed by

Sir Richard Attenborough

and the director, Mario

Carriera.

Deventer was where the film

was shot last year, and it has

spent there is roughly about a

quarter of the total cost of the

film, claimed by the producer

John Palme

and the director, Mario

Carriera.

When troubles came to a head, the Government insisted on

changes at the top and put

in a commissioner, Ugo Nitto,

to run it. Then it promised

increasing allocations of funds,

until it was decided that there

was no alternative but to

liquidate the parent and divide

the operating companies

between two other state holding

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# Wine give

# Export finance:

**EXPORT FINANCE.** We cut red tape to a minimum. Give you a prompt yes or no on whatever you require. And besides providing finance to U.K. exporters under E.C.G.D. schemes, we also supply finance direct to overseas buyers of capital goods and services.

**TEST US:** Contact Brian Shepherd, our senior executive in charge of Export finance. Tel. London 606 9944, ext. 4368, telex 888401 or write, Midland Bank Limited, International Division, 60 Gracechurch Street, London EC3P 3BN, England.



**Midland Bank International**  **Delivers.**



## MANAGEMENT

## Setting new standards of disclosure in collective bargaining

I had a man like that at the table from me, I'd him in paper up to his it would be both defend and incomprehensible, if you think an accountant do that, you don't know about accounting." This little outburst was produced by a senior manager, an hour's frustrating dialogue with a senior trade official about Disclosure of Information for Collective Bargaining Purposes—the title he latest draft code of practice produced by the Adjudication and Arbitration Service. It illuminates the difficulties of attitude that stand the debate on "disclosure"—or indeed on open

most of the discussion—on the trade unionist to what he would concede in for information. They'd hard to pin him down, was felling and ducking his memory of an accepted plan he himself is enacting. He saw the objective improving the pay and conditions of his members, and some of the necessary out of doing so. With information it would be haggling in the dark, as often is. But he only would not bind his men by any specific con-

### psychological gap to be bridged

What does the ACAS code that particular psychological gap? Well, it says employers should aim to be open and helpful as possible in meeting trade unions for information and "present information in an and style which readers can reasonably be expected to understand".

An indignant accountant in I quoted at the beginning of this article would clearly be in breach of code, unless his papers are defensible that their reprehensibility did not. What about the unions?

"Trade unions," says the "should review existing programmes or establish new ones to ensure negotiators are equipped to understand and use information effectively".

Negotiators, of course, in shop stewards, and the issue is that the total union-approved training programme is barely enough to produce a week's training a year for the annual turnover of yards; some observers that even that is an estimate to make

ments of good practice in the immensely various industrial world where tempers sometimes short. By way of guidance it is at least a useful example, having been from the original some of the roughing and the section on long "information agreements"; a joint understanding clearly on what employers should tell union negotiators is, as far as the code now. And two or unions recognized by the employer should coordinate their requests for information wherever possible; this simply a bland truism the code is a statutory one defining responsibil-

ity code also points out that is relevant to a particular situation depends on situation, and goes on to a broadly unchanged list of trade unions, might it be told what is going from grading criteria and systems to transfer prices,

### Imus Macbeth

The author is Plowden Professor of Industrial Relations at London Business School. \* Disclosure of Information for Collective Bargaining Purposes is available from HMSO (15p).

## Whitehall gets to grips with rising costs

good from time to time evidence that the Civil Service is wrestling with some mundane problems which management in private is so much trouble, particularly irritating example for many managers is apparently inexorable of costs in recent years been that of postal and telecommunications charges. Civil Service Department its management service division got on to this nearly two years ago.

It soon, which was then set out with the Inland Revenue management services on to see what could be to keep down these costs, reckons to have achieved £2m a year, with a potential saving quantified £3m annually, and other identifiable savings.

Methods by which these savings are being achieved are led by the team leader, Mr Phillips, in the May of Management Services Department.

One of its conclusions were kind which even a private household might apply to its own affairs without study: that second class should be used wherever possible in preference to first and that telephone calls preferably be made in the afternoon when charges are also explored less often economies through betterization of other aspects Post Office's services, through seeking an actual



There are no fixed rules to decide how much even the biggest of companies should spend on its advertising. The equation is even more difficult than usual when related to a collection of semi-independent traders operating under franchise banner.

The British Kentucky Fried Chicken chain which was acquired by the Connecticut-based Heublein cocktails and sauces group in 1973, has worked out a solution in the form of an advertising fund which has valuable side advantages.

For example, an employer may not compile detailed information on most of the main power matters set out in paragraph 11 (III) but can contribute for a large part of his undertaking, but the data is there all right. However, this does give some answer to the question, "What do I do?" Any employer who does not compile information (that is, a conventional ordering of data) on such matters might be well advised to do so, and to do it in a way that union representatives can understand or be persuaded to understand.

Otherwise, the relevant section of the Employment Protection Act are a potential trapwire. A decision whether compiling information of a certain kind would be of greater cost to the employer than the value to the union cannot be reached "objectively" in any dispute that comes to the Central Arbitration Committee; they will decide from experience and judgment of how the parties carry themselves.

I have always found it odd that employers who are extremely specific with information about some kinds of behaviour—operating machines for example—ride away from other matters which are equally influential. You do not teach someone to work a particular machine by making general comments about machinery as large—and you do not develop a sense of comfort and consideration in a job by talking at large about the company image.

### Company image accepted too completely

Many unionists, by contrast, buy the company image too completely. They may have a view of the world which has managers sitting on a board of information which enables them to determine future development. The core of "Galbraith's" "reconstruction", but which they refuse to share.

The idea that a company can plan and achieve the employment of say, 1,000 people in each of 20 plants over three years is widespread. Yet many managers would rather not talk about it, than diminish their "status" by starting uncertainty.

Exchanging information in useful ways requires some trust and some shared conventions. It also requires to be considerate in action as well as in principle. For example, most directors of large companies say that they approve of union's training their stewards. Union officials responsible for steward training, experience a reality that is quite different; if managers as a whole had readily conceded time off for training, the Employment Protection Act would not have imposed it. In the long run we have to develop conventions which genuinely encompass both what goes on and what people say goes on.

Imus Macbeth

The author is Plowden Professor of Industrial Relations at London Business School.

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## Lickin' chicken franchising into shape

Clearly, long-term success is not as easy to achieve in the trading health generally, as well as discussing future plans.

As others, apart from Ray Allen and Harry Latham, two entrepreneurs who first brought Kentucky Fried Chicken from America to Britain have found, it is fairly easy, using the franchise system.

### Out of 30 countries the UK subsidiary made the biggest gains

Throughout the 10 years or so which it has been in operation in Britain, KFC, with less than half the number of shops as Wimpy, has been able to spend twice as much on advertising. In 1975, for instance, KFC's expenditure on national newspaper and television advertising alone totalled over £200,000 (doubled in the following year) against less than £70,000 spent by Wimpy.

On top of this there is probably half as much again spent on local advertising, special promotions (usually of the money-off variety), window stickers and the like.

Being able to carry on heavy media advertising, regardless of the state of company profits, has undoubtedly helped KFC to put a brave face on some difficult periods. Many firms, from Heinz to Bass Charrington, have dipped their toes in and withdrawn from the £100m a year take-away food industry. Wimpy itself tried and abandoned a number of take-away projects.

to check quality and hygiene at every stage. Results are measured by a picture of the famous Colonel Sanders registering a frown, a smile or a straight face.

Mr Acheson is delighted to report that KFC Great Britain was nominated as the subsidiary showing the biggest improvement in this respect of any in the 30 countries where KFC trades, during the past 12 months.

The next stage has been a spur of product diversification to complement the basic recipe of chicken and chips. The sharp rise in potato prices together with the hot summer last year led to salads being offered as an alternative to chips. The latest innovation has been barbecue sauce ribs where demand in the early stages embarrassingly exceeded supply.

KFC is now involved with redesigning the stores themselves. During the past year it has spent an estimated £500,000 on putting in new equipment and other improvements in its company stores.

Budgets are being finalized with the parent company for a further programme which will, for instance, remove partitions between customers and the kitchen area, adding heating, music and pictures of food where appropriate.

The company is also experimenting with providing eating facilities at some of its branches.

All these innovations are being introduced as rapidly as

possible into the company-owned stores. Results (the renovated stores are showing a 40 per cent rise in turnover against a 20 per cent average increase) are used to persuade franchise holders to follow suit.

The advertising company has, according to Mr Acheson, proved very useful as a way of conveying the commercial benefits of the improvements to licensees long before the message reaches the general public.

Mr Acheson, an accountant by training, is proud of his previous profit record and keen to improve KFC's financial situation. Heublein do not give a separate financial breakdown for their overseas subsidiaries, but the results filed at Companies House show an indifferent trading record since 1973. Profits have dwindled, culminating in a loss of £146,972 on a turnover of £4.8m for the year ending on May 30, 1976.

Contributing to the loss, however, were some exceptional costs including bad debts and some write-offs connected with the disposal of half the company's 100 company-owned stores. The aim is to improve revenue from franchise income (collected on the basis of a 4 per cent royalty on franchisees' turnover).

Mr Acheson is optimistic about the company's future prospects and expects to be able to report that it is back in profit, albeit modestly, for the year ending this month.

Patricia Tisdall

# Yes. Let's go into business together.

DURING the bad times, your training programmes have suffered. You've been finding—like most employers—that you simply can't afford your usual investment in raw, untrained talent. Yet you know that without a continuing development of essential skills, your business can't survive in the long term.

Now the economy seems to be turning the corner, perhaps it's time to take stock.

We don't ask you to do it unaided. There are generous grants, and a whole range of national schemes, open to almost all employers willing to bring young people into their business.

Some of these schemes are new. Some have been around for some time. All have full CBI and TUC backing. We say you could use any or all of them to your company's advantage. Find out if we're right.

### The Work Experience Programme

Helps build tomorrow's workforce today. Some 670,000 school-leavers this year will be seeking work. The majority will be successful. Many will be disappointed. These youngsters need to feel useful and be useful. You can help; and with your help we can turn a problem into an opportunity.

We ask you to take on young people and give them Work Experience; help build their confidence, sort out their aptitudes, give them the chance to prove their ability and aptitude, learn work discipline, and gain vital experience.

We'll help you write a programme. You can select your own candidates (some firms have given first choice to employee's children). You pay them an allowance of £16 a week. We reimburse you in full with a minimum of fuss and paperwork. Enlightened self-interest: This programme works both ways. Big companies such as Chrysler, NatWest, and ICI have found that what started as an exercise in social responsibility has brought positive personnel benefits: in some cases an important preview of training talent, closer labour relationships, a reassessment of the potential of apparently underqualified young people.

These companies' experiences have been shared by hundreds of small businesses across the country; could you benefit too?

Details available from your local Work Experience Office.

### Grants and Awards for Employers

To maintain and, where practical, expand apprenticeship and other trainee schemes for young people, the Training Services Agency has funds available through your Industrial Training Board to help with the cost of first year training for extra recruits.

Grants are also available for employers providing experience for college-based sandwich course students.

Details vary from industry to industry. For specific information contact your ITB; or if your industry does not have one phone John McElroy (01-8361213).



### Government Subsidies

Three on-going subsidies run by the Department of Employment can help keep your staff and assist with recruitment and thus keep your business viable:

Youth Employment Subsidy Offers £10 a week, for 26 weeks, for those you take on, who have been registered as continuously unemployed for six months and were under 20 at 1st Oct. 1976. (Scheme closes 31st Aug. 1977.)

Temporary Employment Subsidy Faced with making workers redundant, this subsidy gives you time to re-equip and redeploy. It can pay £20 per head per week for up to a year, and £10 a week for up to a further six months, to help you avoid redundancies.

Job Release Scheme Older workers in assisted areas can opt to stop work up to a year early, and get £23 a week tax free. You take on a younger worker, perhaps with a more relevant skill. (Scheme closes 30th June 1977.)

You can get details of all these subsidies from the Department of Employment.

### Short-course Training

The Training Services Agency runs Short Industrial Courses usually lasting three months, to train 16-18 year-olds to operator or junior clerk level in many occupations.

These courses are run in Skillcentres, Colleges of Further Education and Employers' establishments.

If you can offer suitable training facilities the TSA would like to hear from you. You will be compensated, and the young people you train will receive a weekly allowance.

If you recruit young people from these courses you are selecting youngsters who are already motivated to work and have received basic training in a particular occupation.

Contact your local district office of the TSA.

### Job Creation Programme

You can plan, organise, and manage a scheme lasting up to 12 months which will provide short-term employment for people who would otherwise be unemployed, and which will be of benefit to the local community.

Job Creation Programme pays approved wage costs, plus up to 10% towards the running costs of projects (in certain circumstances). Contact your local Job Creation Office.

### Let's help each other

There are many ways we can help you build up your workforce. You can help us. First, by making sure that your personnel people know about these schemes. Second, by using them yourself. Third, by notifying us of any vacancies you may have for young people.

In particular we feel the Work Experience Programme is breaking new ground, and showing proven mutual benefits to employers and young people. It's a bold answer to a big problem: the higher the unemployment in your locality the more we need your help.

Talk to us. You'll get direct action from any of the offices listed above with the facts you need, and a presentation if you'd like one. Or if you'd like more details first, your local Jobcentre, Employment Office or Careers Office has full information on all these schemes.

# Opportunities for young people.



Manpower Services Commission  
Selkirk House, 166 High Holborn, London WC1V 7EP

A study of the use of telephones found it was economical for straightforward messages of up to 130 words sent out of the local area but less than 56 kilometres (35 miles) and for messages of up to 60 words sent over 56 kilometres. For reactive situations the telephone was both quicker and cheaper and for longer messages it was cheaper to send a letter. Otherwise the main justification for its use was urgency.

\*Management Services in Government available through the Civil Service Department, Whitehall, London, SW1.

## FINANCIAL NEWS AND MARKET REPORTS

## When relative performance can outweigh the fundamentals

Full marks to two brokers this week for speed off the mark. It is rare to see a pronounced sell recommendation from any analyst: all opinions are usually couched in the more gentle language of "switch to another stock" or "the rise has gone as far as it can" — so it's a double surprise to see an uninhibited sell recommendation of the Burton group.

Both Williams de Broe Hill Chaplin and Buckmaster & Moore rushed out comment on the day after the Burton results and their conclusions are unanimous and unequivocal.

"The extent of uncertainty and difficulties in the group's division", Williams de Broe's researcher Mr S. G. Razzett concludes, "suggest that it is still a sell after the recent rise in the price". Mr P. B. Gale at Buckmaster & Moore's is equally scathing — even after yesterday's 10 per cent fall in the share price, the shares are still a sale on basic trading grounds. "Earnings for shareholders are likely to be absent for some time", he states.

If Burton was the subject of swift and conclusive thought, brokers have had plenty of time to consider the impact of the forthcoming Price Commission inquiry into brewers' profits. Grievous Grant, in a recently quarterly review, brings out the three fundamentals to be considered in purchases of this sector, but at the same time recognises that its "battling order" of preferences among

the majors cannot always be taken at face value and the firm's analyst, Mr John Waters, has had to base much of his information on the availability and reliability of clues and outside sources.

His fundamentals comprise the outlook for lager, for wine and spirits and "vulnerability in an intensification of competition in the free trade, as a result of the weak overall demand situation in beer".

Taking the fundamentals, Allied Breweries comes out on top, Whitbread falls on each count, Guinness and Scottish & Newcastle come out badly on wines and spirits and on free trade.

### Brokers' views

exposure but would probably suffer the least from problems in the lager market, while Bass Charrington is in precisely the opposite situation.

But having examined these investment criteria, Grievous makes an important proviso and so says a great deal about the nature of "fundamental" research.

"We must emphasize again our belief that fundamental differences between one brewer and another, in practice make for only marginal variations in long-term profits performance, and that share ratings and recent price performance are

## Geo Wimpey thrives but pitfalls ahead

Having carved an early and sizable slice of the Middle Eastern construction market, while at the same time showing resilience in face of the building recession at home, George Wimpey for 1977 is in "good shape", particularly in technical expertise and productive capacity. At home a satisfactory workload has been secured and the indications for private housing are better than expected towards the end of 1976, writes Mr R. B. Smith, chairman, in his annual statement.

But the level of new inquiries is still depressed, he says, and he urges that the Government's economy measures be centred on revenue rather than capital expenditure.

Meanwhile its record overseas workload was further boosted in 1977 and earnings again, again the marked strides it is making abroad. This was particularly the case in Canada, where Wimpey has a "strong and expanding" business, and in the Middle East. In the latter region its involvement has grown significantly and work is also expected to start in some new countries this year.

Its resilience at home is reflected in pre-tax profits for 1976, some 14 per cent higher at £44.5m on a workload up £110m to £652m.

Ray Maughan

## Hudson's Bay Company

INCORPORATED 2ND MAY 1670

### Increased sales, earnings and dividend

The following are extracts from the Directors' report and the Accounts for the financial year ended 31st January, 1977:

The Company achieved increased earnings in 1975, a year which will be remembered as a difficult one for the merchandising industry in Canada. Earnings were up 12.8% to \$24,810,000 from \$22,004,000 in 1975. Sales and revenue increased by 13.4% to \$1,348,939,000 from \$1,189,330,000 the year before.

The Board has declared a semi-annual dividend of 32¢ per share, an increase of 2½¢ per share over the semi-annual dividends paid in 1976.

Merchandising. The principal activities of the Company are in the merchandising sector, comprising retail, wholesale, and fur operations. Merchandising earnings before tax and interest were \$48,830,000 in 1976, up from \$46,302,000 the previous year.

Retail. The quarterly rate of increase of retail sales declined throughout the year as the Anti-Inflation Programme had a progressively dampening effect on consumer spending. Seven stores are now under construction. Six of these will open in 1977 and the other in 1978.

Wholesale. The wholesale operation continued to grow in sales and earnings. Three new branches were opened making a total of 36.

Fur. Increased demand for furs for fashion, as well as for their utilitarian use, have resulted in higher price levels. Our wholly owned auction houses in Montreal and New York, together with Hudson's Bay and Annings Limited of London (59% owned) achieved aggregate records in both sales and profits.

Natural Resources. Our earnings from natural resources were \$10,480,000 in 1976, an increase of 30.7%.

## Reshaped Fitzwilson shakes off the gloom in return to profits

By Ashley Druker

Carrying into effect a policy of selling-off in order to survive, Fitzwilson, Dublin-based conglomerate, emerged from the gloom of 1975-76 with a turnaround, in the black and resumption of an interim dividend for the half to December 31. In the preceding full year, it turned in an after-tax loss of £3.26m. But then a £32.8m disposals programme transformed the balance sheet. The elimination of its debt burden and rationalisation and part sale of the fertiliser loss-maker business meant the group was budgeting for a return to profits in 1976-77.

In a rebound from a loss of £1.7m to a profit of £105,000 pre-tax for the half to end-December, it pays an interim dividend of 1.5p a share. This is out of a virtually tax-free

export profits reserve which was created in the last financial year to preserve its minimal tax status.

Mr Tony O'Reilly, deputy chairman, explains that because of the timing of the sale of his investment in National Mine Service last October, the half-time results show a "distorted" picture of both interest payments and profits attributable to associates. If these items had occurred at the start of the half, pre-tax profits would have been £31.7m.

An exceptional loss of £235,000 on the sale of the Williams companies notes was due to the fluctuation of the dollar exchange rate between June 30 last and the date of sale. An extraordinary net profit of some £830,000 arose on the sale of the holding in

Meimeline, the fortunes of Goulding Chemicals have improved over the corresponding period, but it is still a loss maker. The group's 50 per cent share of this for the half was about £600,000. Because of the seasonal nature of the business, the attributable loss for the full year to end-June should not exceed some £500,000. Generally, the outlook for the rest of the year is "satisfactory" and his board forecasts that the overall outcome will show a profit.

Earlier this month it was announced that the Levantis Group had agreed to buy Doly, the soft drinks division.

Finally, the board also records that the High Court has made an order confirming the resolution to cancel the share premium account, at present £9.02m.

## Whitbread Boots, Co Patons and Beechams

Among major reporting final results are Whitbread tomorrow, day the heavier Beechams, Boots and Patons, Debenhams and Friday.

**TODAY**  
Interims. — Australia Banking, Leeds Docks & Finishes, Spoons & Fins. — Anglo-Swiss Bainbridge, Eng. Borneo, Caledonian Carter, Ryder, C. P. Procs, EID-Parry, French Kier, H. Colman Goodkin, Harrods, L. L. Lennon Bros, L. L. Land Inds, Young C. Tst.

**TOMORROW**  
Interims. — Baggeridge, Thos. Borthwick, G. & A. Accident, I. & H. Holders, Inv. I. H. Blackley, Bulmer & C. E. Heath, Copyards, Radio, J. Foster & Sons, W. W. H. Hartfield Bros, Inv. T. T. Held.

### Results this week

McNeill Gp, M. I. Nichols (Vimto), W. Runciman, Seccombe Bros & Campion, Tim P. Whitebread Co.

**WEDNESDAY**  
Interims. — Concaud, Devenish, G. & G. Land Investors, North American Tst, Rank H. McDougall, Redman H. Int'l, Steinhous Hides, W. Sons & Co (UK), W. (1st qtr), Final, Charl. Hill, Dupont, J. P. Heffo, Hambros, Inv. London Tst, Radicke, Geo Sturis & Son.

**THURSDAY**  
Interims. — Brockhouse & Tipton, J. J. Jefferis, Midland Inds, Tringford Fins. — B. C. Corrie & Chemical, Paragon Ldn & Lenn. Tst, Ind. & General, T. Malton Inv Tst, Mont. Tst, Peacock of Birmingham, Pyramid Gp, Sphere Inv. C. W. Walker, Hides, W. Inv.

**FRIDAY**  
Interims. — M. J. Gleeson (Contractors), House of Fraser (1st qtr), Final, Allied Leather Inds, Debenhams, Every Ready, James Harrison Hides, Scott's Restaurant.

## Bank NSW to slow down

Chairman at

Seagram

distillers

Mr Roger Lambeth is to take on the chairmanship of Seagram Distillers in addition to his existing post of managing director. He succeeds Mr Edgar Bronfman, who will continue to serve as a member of the board. The company also announces the appointment of Mr Philip Bellamy to the board.

Mr John Kenney has been appointed president of the chemical division of Phillips Petroleum Co. He replaces Mr Kenneth Smalley, who is returning to the United States to assume the newly created position of worldwide manager of Specialty Chemicals.

Mr Ralph Bateman joins the board of Rich Brothers.

Mr W. H. Davidson has been appointed a director of Johnson Group Cleaners.

Mr R. M. Whitelaw has been made a director of TI Markland.

Mr J. L. Perkins and Mr P. J. Olsen have been made directors of Wickman Machine Tool Sales.

Mr Fernand Heiter, of Luxembourg, has been appointed a director of Tolux S.A.

Mr R. Geffner joins the board of Prince of Wales Hotels.

Mr John Newton, vice-president of The Fidelity Bank has been named director-general of The Fidelity Bank (France).

Mr Archibald Ferguson has been appointed assistant vice-president and money manager Europe.

Mr Alan West is to join the board of City & Metropolitan Building Society.

Mr Peter Riches has been appointed managing director of H. F. H. Morris.

Mr D. W. T. Adamson has been made financial director of W. E. Norton (Holdings).

Mr J. S. W. Winton joins the board of The Bank Line.

Mr W. Main has been made a director of Andrew W. W. Agencies.

Mr D. Martin is appointed managing director of Howa Boilers and Howa-Farrer Boilers.

For example, one investment banker estimated that between \$750m and \$1,000m of subscription payments for recent bond issues which come due this week.

Normally, there is a one-to-

## Bank NSW to slow down

Chairman at

Seagram

distillers

Half-year operating profit before tax of Bank of New South Wales to end-March improved from \$A52.02m to \$A71.79m and the attributable from \$A19.45m to \$A27.03m. But profits for the year overall are unlikely to show the same rate of increase as in the opening spell. It pays a same again interim of 14 cents.

**UNION MINIÈRE SETBACK**

Union Miniere in which Tan-ganyika Concessions has a 17.6 per cent interest showed a profit of \$19.1m, up 16.5 per cent from \$17.9m in 1975. Results from 19.7m francs (about £2.7m) from \$6.4m in 1975. Results were unfavourably influenced by various monetary and world economic factors.

**PRESIDENT BRAND**

A fire on the 38 level of the South African Gold mine, South Africa, which broke out on Wednesday last, was burning last night. Production has been halted but little overall effect is expected on the mine's production.

**DUTICL'S £4M SPENDING**

Duticl Group, steel re-rollers, announces plans to invest £4m on new capital projects over next two years.

**HAMMERMANN AUGUSTUS**

Boycott of investment market from prime properties can only assist well the investment portfolio, says chairman. The company will continue to concentrate for time being on improvement of existing properties.

**ADJUSTING TO HIGHER SHORT-TERM RATES**

Prices of recent Eurodollar bond issues generally fell between one and two points this week in what represented perhaps an extra large adjustment to the cumulative rise in short-term Eurodollar interest rates over the past few weeks of about three-quarters of a point, writes AP-Dow Jones.

While this price correction might be enough to restore stability, the internal workings of the market point toward further near-term weakness, some analysts assert.

For example, one investment banker estimated that between \$750m and \$1,000m of subscription payments for recent bond issues which come due this week.

Normally, there is a one-to-

two week lag between the time an issue is offered and the time subscription payments are required.

During this interval, underwriters and investors can change their minds about an issue and sell out their positions without incurring extra carrying costs.

Depressing prices was sha

elling by professional trade

According to several market participants, many retail investors and institutions have been avoiding making commitments either buying or selling so much. Thus, as dealers tried to get short, there was a tendency during the week for bonds to be sold from dealer to dealer at declining prices. This is have exaggerated the down-trend, analysts say.

However, looking a little further ahead than the next few or two or three, many investors

banks are optimistic about the prospects for price stab

ing, albeit at lower levels than those of a few weeks ago.

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# Whitbri Boots, C Patons Beecham

## Bank Base Rates

### FINANCIAL NEWS AND MARKET REPORTS

## Gold shares set to rise?

Gold and platinum shares are wearing a jaded, fagged name and have seemed almost incapable of responding to any good news, although, admittedly, there has been more good news on the gold than the platinum front.

The gold price has recovered well this year, and although the hoped for break-through of the \$155, an ounce level has not materialised, at least there has been strong consolidation at lower levels.

However, gold share prices, according to analysts, are reflecting a gold price of no more than \$130 an ounce, rather than Friday's closing price of \$145.125 an ounce, a gain of \$1.50 on the day.

The political clouds overhanging Southern Africa, which last year, drove away investors in their hordes, have certainly abated recently with the more pragmatic stance apparently being taken by the South African Government and others.

That does not mean to say that there is not a long way to go, as was made clear from Mr Harry Oppenheimer, chairman of Anglo-American Corporation of South Africa. The pressing need for change was made even clearer to me during my visit to South Africa by English speakers and Afrikaner alike who tended to use more direct and

less diplomatic phraseology than Mr Oppenheimer.

However, Dr Vorster does appear to be bending with the Westerly winds over the future of Namibia while the authorities have climbed down over the Soweto rent increases—an interesting facet of the demonstrations over the rent increases was the unusual, indeed, the gloom approach in handling the demonstrators.

While the events in Zaire have been causing considerable concern in South Africa, and to a lesser degree, elsewhere in South Africa, there is a burning fear of Russian influence extending from East to West across the continent along her

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**Dublin shop complex gets going**

The exchange of contracts last week between the Irish Life Assurance Co and Dublin Corporation for the first phase of the Moore Street shopping complex marks a further stage in the new look being given to the historic city. The site contains some 10,000 sq ft within 100 yards of the General Post Office in O'Connell Street.

Designed by David Keane and Partners provides for 190,000 sq ft of shopping space set in a multi-storey car park for some 600 cars. An interesting detail of the design is that the building line along the west side of Moore Street will be set back to give an open space for the use of street traders, and special accommodation is also being provided within the complex for stall holders.

In another part of the scheme a large part has been let to Roches Stores, who will have access to the main mall from their recent extension. Under the terms of the partnership agreement between Irish Life and the corporation, Irish Life will provide the finance and be responsible for the development.

Any surplus above an agreed yield will be divided equally between the corporation and Irish Life. Total development cost is about £10m. Letting of this scheme is through Lering and Sons, Dublin.

Irish Life is also concerned with another scheme, between Abbey Street and Talbot Street, costing about £30m. There the first phase is complete and the second, comprising shopping units and multi-storey car park and to the roof of the new Tesco store.

In Scotland the first large new office development in Fife, after many years in need of completion, The building is Grahame House, in Vicar Street, on the site of the old post office, the impressive Victorian front of which is being retained. Design is by Scott, Marion and Turner and the space provided will be about 22,500 sq ft, which is being let at £3.75 a sq ft.

The development is by Grahame House Investments, a company founded by Southgate Associates, the site will have an investment value of more than £1m and will comprise 44,500 sq ft of industrial and warehousing space at Pier Road, Fifeham, Middlesex. Construction is due to begin this month and completion about next March. Units will be available from 5,000 sq ft at rents of £2 a sq ft. Letting is through Harold Williams Bennett and Partners, Brian Cooper and Co, and Dunphy.

Work has begun on the second phase of the central area redevelopment in Sale, Cheshire, which is being carried out by Langford Property Co.



Garden House, in Long Acre, Covent Garden, is a renovation office scheme carried out by the English Property Corporation.

Co., a subsidiary of Beaumont Properties. This phase, part of a six-acre scheme, will comprise nine individual shops of varying sizes, totalling some 21,500 sq ft, which are to give on to a covered pedestrian mall.

It will adjoin the recently reopened covered market hall at the Milk Town Square, Hereford. Site opposite the entrance to the new Tesco department store, which is now nearing completion. Parking will be provided at first-floor level and be linked by bridges to the new multi-storey car park and to the roof of the new Tesco store.

A building contract worth £500,000 has gone to J. Jarvis, of Sale, and completion is due next year. Design is by Turner and Loddon. Holt and Partners, of Manchester, and letting is through Healey and Baker.

In the industrial sector Dimsdale Developments (South) and Clegg Properties, a wholly owned subsidiary of Associated Newspapers, are to carry out a joint industrial partnership scheme with the London Borough of Hounslow.

Design is by Southgate Associates, the site will have an investment value of more than £1m and will comprise 44,500 sq ft of industrial and warehousing space at Pier Road, Fifeham, Middlesex. Construction is due to begin this month and completion about next March. Units will be available from 5,000 sq ft at rents of £2 a sq ft. Letting is through Harold Williams Bennett and Partners, Brian Cooper and Co, and Dunphy.

Gerald Ely

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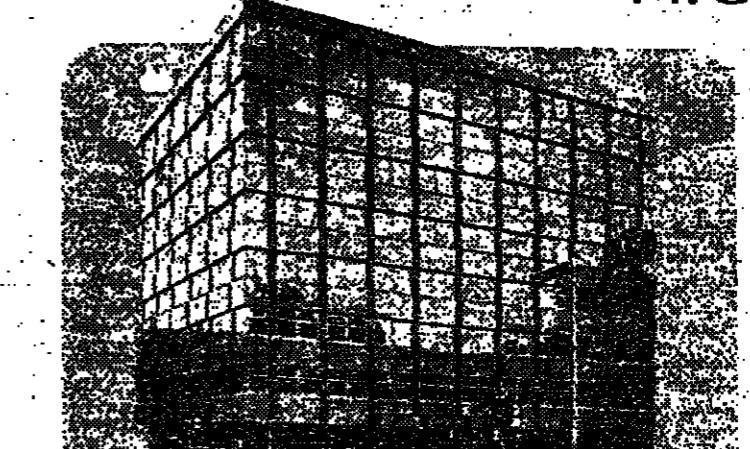
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## BIRTHS

BURNHAM—On May 11, to Fiona and William, son Alexander William de Veire.

CHILTON—At King's Hospital, Al Kinsham, on May 11, to Jean, Cunningham and John Cunningham, a brother for Andrew.

FINCH—At University Hospital, Elstree, Herts, on May 11, to Stephen, a brother for Andrew.

MAKINSON—James, 10th May.

LYNN—At St. John's, new Robinsons, and Julian, son Robert.

MINTON—At St. Mary's, Portsmouth, to Nicki, a brother for Henry and Hamish.

MORGAN—On May 11, to David, a son for David and Joanne.

MOSSES—On Friday, 13th May, to John, a son for Robert and Robyn, a daughter, Rebecca, Antoinette Ann, a sister for Natalie.

STEVENS—On May 11, to Alison, and Christopher, a son for Bridget and Michael.

TYRRELL—Star and at San Simeon, Calif., to Caroline, a son for Timothy and Diane.

WEINSTEIN—Died on May 11, to his wife, 21, Betty Memorial Hospital, Princeton, N.J., William Gray, 1977, at Parkers' new Hackensack and New Jersey Hospital.

WOOD—On May 11, at Birstein and William Wood, first son Sam.

## BIRTHDAY

LULU—Handy, Blithfield, George, older, but still 56-32-22. Without you, it was Nilsson's. Without

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